



PURGATORY



Winter 2023-24
Press Kit



About Purgatory

Purgatory is tucked away between Durango and Silverton on the San Juan Skyway Scenic and Historic Byway, on the southern edge of the San Juan Mountains. Purgatory offers 1,635 skiable acres, 4 terrain parks, 11 lifts, and 107 trails from wide-open cruisers to steep tree skiing. One of Colorado's most family-friendly and best value ski resorts, Purgatory's [Power Kids](#) season pass is the only pass in North America that offers free unlimited skiing for all kids ages 12 and under. Lift tickets for the 2023-2024 season are on sale now, with prices starting at just \$9 — one of the best ski deals on the market.

Signature events and on-mountain activities include New Year's Eve fireworks, live music, pond skating, tubing, and the year-round mountain coaster. Visitors can dine at the Village Plaza base area or take in the views at one of Purgatory's mountain lodges. Overnight accommodations range from slopeside studios to luxurious penthouse suites. Purgatory Snowcat Adventures is Colorado's largest guided snowcat operation, with access to over 35,000 acres of expert terrain in the San Juan backcountry, plus scenic tours and Snowcat dining excursions for the whole family.

Purgatory Resort's 2023-2024 ski season is scheduled to begin on November 18 with capital improvements, resort animation, and exclusive discounts for season passholders and guests. Purgatory is open daily from November 18, 2023 through April 14, 2024, and weekends only through April 28, 2024. New this season, Purgatory will expand late-season weekend operations to include Fridays. Visit purgatory.ski to learn more.



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Purgatory Resort Fact Sheet

2023-2024 Winter Season Dates and Times

Open daily November 18, 2023 to April 14, 2024, and weekends only (Friday through Sunday) until April 28, 2024 (conditions permitting). Lift hours of operation are 9 am until 4 pm. Ticket office hours of operation: 8am - 5pm daily.

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

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)

11 Lifts Serving 107 trails

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

Winter Activities

- ❖ Inferno Mountain Coaster
- ❖ Tubing Hill
- ❖ Guided Snowcat Skiing
- ❖ Snowcat Scenic Tours
- ❖ Snowcat Dining Excursions
- ❖ Snowshoe Tours
- ❖ Sleigh Rides
- ❖ Snowmobile Adventures
- ❖ Purgatory Nordic Center

Trail Ratings by percentage

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

Terrain parks

- ❖ Halo Terrain Park
- ❖ Horns Terrain Park
- ❖ Headwaters Terrain Park
- ❖ Pitchfork Terrain Park



Purgatory Resort Gears Up for Winter 2023–2024

Lift tickets for 2023-24 ski season on sale now with demand-based pricing starting at \$9

Durango, CO — (August 18, 2023) —Purgatory Resort, one of Colorado's most family-friendly and best value ski resorts, is pleased to announce lift tickets for the 2023-24 ski season are on sale now, with prices starting at \$9 on select dates — one of the best ski deals on the market.

Purgatory's **demand-based pricing** strategy supports a positive guest experience and rewards those who plan ahead. This dynamic pricing model adjusts in real-time based on ticket demand, and rewards guests who purchase early with the best deals. This strategy is also designed to improve operational efficiencies for staffing and reduce peak-time lift lines and crowds.

"Our primary focus is to make skiing and snowboarding more accessible and enjoyable for everyone," said Dave Rathbun, General Manager at Purgatory Resort. "By offering dynamic pricing, we're not only deliver a great value, but also working to create a more enjoyable on-snow experience."

2023-24 Season Highlights:

▼ **Purgatory Joins Colorado GEMS:** Purgatory Resort joins the Colorado Ski Country USA Gems program for the 2023-24 winter season. The Gems Card offers an affordable and flexible way to explore Colorado's hidden gem ski areas for an authentic skiing or snowboarding adventure free of crowds, lift lines and hassles.

- ❖ **Capital Improvements:** Significant investments have been made to enhance infrastructure and the resort experience for the 2023-24 ski season including Phase II upgrades at Dante's Lodge and Powderhouse, the addition of a second winch cat to the grooming fleet, completion of parking lot expansions begun last year, and new equipment additions to the Rental Shop including Burton snowboards and adult and kids ski boots.
- ❖ **Resort Animation:** An array of new and exciting events and activities awaits visitors. From mountain coaster rides and snow tubing under the Columbine lights, to live music sessions on the ski beach, Purgatory promises an immersive experience beyond just skiing and riding.
- ❖ **Special Promotions:** Exclusive discounts and deals will be available for both passholders and destination guests, including:
 - [Power Kids](#) is the only pass in North America that grants unlimited free skiing for kids ages 12 and under, no purchase required or blackout dates.
 - Rewards like the [Fun Fund](#) offer a \$20/day resort credit on advance purchase lift tickets during select time periods (holidays excluded). The credit can be used to purchase food and beverages, lessons and retail items offered by Resort-owned shops and restaurants.
 - [Multi-day FLEX Lift Tickets](#) offer 3 of 4, 4 of 5 or 5 of 7 days out on the slopes, and pick your FLEX/rest day(s) when you're ready. Ski multiple days with a rest day of your choice, or use a day to enjoy one of the many activities found in and around Durango. Pricing is dynamic, so you can shop for the best dates and rates for your needs, the earlier you buy, the more you save.

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About Purgatory

Purgatory is tucked away between Durango and Silverton along the San Juan Skyway, on the southern edge of the San Juan Mountains. One of Colorado's most family-friendly and best value ski resorts, Purgatory's Power Kids season pass is the only pass in North America that grants free unlimited skiing and snowboarding for all kids ages 12 and under, no blackout days or purchase required. Purgatory features 107 trails, 4 terrain parks, 11 lifts, and 1,635 skiable acres of steep tree skiing and wide-open cruisers; plus year-round family-friendly activities, lodging, retail, restaurants, bars, and signature events. Home to Colorado's largest guided snowcat operation, Purgatory Snowcat Adventures covers 35,000 acres of rolling glades, wide open bowls, cliffs, chutes, gullies and trees, plus Snowcat Scenic Tours and Snowcat Dining Experiences for the whole family. Please visit [Purgatory.ski](https://purgatory.ski) to learn more.



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PURGATORY RESORT RECOGNIZED WITH CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER'S 2023 READERS' CHOICE AWARD

The World's Best Hotels, Cruises, Countries, Cities, Resorts, Trains, Airlines, Airports, Spas, Islands, Luggage, Villas, and Tour Operators

Durango, CO — (October 3, 2023) — Condé Nast Traveler today announced the results of its annual [Readers' Choice Awards](#) with Purgatory Resort recognized as the #33 Ski Resort in the USA.

More than 520,000 Condé Nast Traveler readers submitted responses rating their travel experiences across the globe to offer a comprehensive look at the places they eagerly anticipate revisiting. The Readers' Choice Awards, with their unparalleled legacy as the travel industry's longest-running and most prestigious accolades, remain the ultimate symbol and acknowledgment of excellence within the travel sector. The full list of winners can be found [here](#).

"We are deeply honored to have been named one of Condé Nast Traveler's 2023 Best Ski Resorts," said Dave Rathbun, Purgatory Resort's General Manager. "This prestigious award underscores our ongoing commitment to give people the freedom to ski and provide an exceptional skiing and riding experience for all of our guests."

Purgatory Resort will begin the 2023-24 ski season on November 18 with capital improvements, resort animation, and exclusive packages to enhance the guest experience. This winter, Purgatory Resort is open daily from November 18 to April 14, 2024, and Friday through Sunday until April 28, 2024.

The 2023 Readers' Choice Awards are published on Condé Nast Traveler's website at cntraveler.com/rca and celebrated in the November issue. Press inquiries: awards@condenasttraveler.com.



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Purgatory Resort Opens for 2023-2024 Winter Season

Durango, Colorado – (Nov 16, 2023) – Purgatory Resort marks the beginning of the 2023-24 winter season on Saturday, November 18. The resort welcomes skiers and snowboarders for first chair starting at 9 am with a complimentary pancake breakfast. This winter Purgatory is scheduled to be open daily until April 14, 2024, and on weekends, Friday through Sunday, until April 28, 2024.

“We can’t wait to kick off another incredible winter season at Purgatory,” said Dave Rathbun, General Manager of Purgatory Resort. “Our mountain operations team has been working around the clock to deliver a great early-season experience, and we are excited to welcome everyone back to the slopes on Saturday.”

First chair will launch at 9 am, accompanied by a light pancake breakfast to fuel the day's adventures. Early-season conditions exist and currently terrain is suitable for intermediate to advanced skiers and riders only, with no beginner terrain available. Purgatory Resort plans to open more terrain and lifts as soon as conditions permit.

Guests will upload Purgatory Express Lift 1 and lap Engineer Lift 2 on Westfork and El Diablo trails. Due to early season conditions, skiers and riders will download from the top of Lift 1 when they finish skiing/riding to return to the base area. A mini-version of the popular Headwaters Terrain Park will debut with three (3) tube and two (2) box features. The open terrain has ample coverage with an average 18-inch base depth. Purgatory reminds skiers and riders that safety is a top priority when early season conditions exist. Stay on open trails, keep speed in check, and maintain a safe distance from others on the mountain.

Please refer to [Purgatory's snow report](#) for the most up-to-date information regarding open lifts, trails, and snowfall totals throughout the season. For more details about Purgatory, including lift tickets, season passes and lodging, visit purgatory.ski.



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Purgatory Resort Announces Winter 2023 Holiday Festivities

Durango, CO — (November 30, 2023) — Purgatory Resort, one of Colorado's most family-friendly and best-value ski resorts, is excited to announce a festive holiday lineup with signature events, on-mountain activities, family-friendly entertainment, lodging, shopping, dining, and more. The Village Plaza base area is a magical place to ring in the new year with Santa and Mrs. Claus, followed by the torchlight parade and New Year's Eve fireworks over the San Juan Mountains.

Purgatory 2023 Holiday Schedule

- ❖ **[Santa & Mrs. Claus Visit the Mountain:](#)** Friday, Dec. 22 from 2 - 3:30 pm
Bring the kids to Purgatory's base area to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, and keep an eye out for Santa rushing through the slopes spreading holiday cheer.
- ❖ **[New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade and Fireworks Show:](#)** Sat, Dec. 31, 6 - 6:30 pm
Watch patrollers and ski instructors ski down the mountain, lighting up the night with bright torchlights. Stay for the fireworks show display over the snow-covered mountain, accompanied by festive music and seasonal drinks.
- ❖ **[Snowcat Scenic Tour:](#)** open daily, Dec. 15 - Jan. 7, 2024
A fun outing for the entire family with spectacular panoramic views. The snowcat ride lasts about an hour and the tour lasts about two hours, including a cup of hot cocoa. Three trips per day with various dates this season, tours depart at 9:30 am, 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.

❖ **PSA Guided Cat Skiing**: scheduled to open on Dec. 30

Purgatory Snowcat Adventures is Colorado's largest snowcat skiing operation with 35,000 acres of guided skiing for advanced to expert skiers and riders. Book your full day adventure [here](#).

❖ **Guided Snowshoe Tours**: kicks off for the season Sat, Dec. 23

Explore Colorado's beautiful San Juan Mountains on a snowshoe tour with an experienced guide. Tours depart daily at 9 am and 1 pm, weekends and holidays.

❖ **Inferno Mountain Coaster**: open weekends and throughout the holidays, weather permitting.

Breathtaking mountain views of the Twilight Peaks, thrilling twists and turns, and lightning-fast descents. Open weekends and holidays, 11 am to 4 pm.

❖ **Purgatory's Tubing Hill**: scheduled to open Dec. 15

Fly down high-speed, snow-covered tubing lanes at Purgatory's Tubing Hill in the Columbine beginner area. Grab a tube, choose a lane and enjoy the ride, open weekends and daily throughout the holidays from Dec. 23 - Jan. 7. Open weekends and throughout the holidays from 3 pm - 7 pm.

Purgatory's 2023/24 ski season is underway with capital improvements, new events and exclusive discounts for passholders and guests. This winter Purgatory Resort is scheduled to open daily from November 18 to April 14, 2024, and Friday through Sunday until April 28, 2024. Learn more at purgatory.ski.

About Purgatory

Purgatory is tucked away between Durango and Silverton along the San Juan Skyway, on the southern edge of the San Juan Mountains. One of Colorado's most family-friendly and best value ski resorts, Purgatory's [Power Kids](#) season pass is the only pass in North America that grants free unlimited skiing, riding and lift-served mountain biking for all kids ages 12 and under, no blackout days or purchase required. Purgatory features 107 trails, 4 terrain parks, 11 lifts, and 1,635 skiable acres of steep tree skiing and wide-open cruisers; plus year-round family-friendly activities, lodging, retail, restaurants, bars, and signature events. Home to Colorado's largest guided snowcat operation, Purgatory Snowcat Adventures covers 35,000 acres of rolling glades, wide open bowls, cliffs, chutes, gullies and trees. Visit Purgatory.ski.



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Purgatory Announces First Tracks Brunch Experience

Durango, CO — (January 4, 2024) — Purgatory Resort is excited to announce a new event for powder hounds this season. The [First Tracks Brunch Experience](#) provides a limited number of guests with exclusive, early access to the mountain before it opens to the public. This new event is designed for early birds and powder hounds and represents Purgatory's commitment to providing unique guest experiences.

On select dates this season, guests board Lift 1 starting at 7:30 am and will enjoy first tracks on Lift 3 before Purgatory opens to the public at 9 am. The morning concludes with a plated brunch and champagne toast at the Backside Bistro, where mountain revelers can refuel and raise a glass to a morning of adventure. The number of tickets is limited to ensure a positive guest experience, and early booking is encouraged.

Event Details:

- ❖ 2024 Dates: Jan 7, Jan 21, Feb 4, Mar 3 and Mar 17
- ❖ Time: 7:30 am - 9:00 am (First Tracks), 9:00 am onwards (public access)
- ❖ Location: Board Village Express Lift 1 to access select trails on Lift 3
- ❖ Tickets: \$39 per person (limited availability and does not include lift ticket)

\$39* event ticket includes:

- ❖ Exclusive early access to terrain on Lift 3 before the mountain opens to the general public at 9 am.
- ❖ Champagne toast, pastries, and a plated brunch at the Backside Bistro, located on the backside of Purgatory at Dante's on-mountain lodge.
- ❖ *Price does not include pass or lift ticket for the day.

Tickets are available now and are expected to sell out quickly. For additional information about the "First Tracks Brunch Experience" and other upcoming events at Purgatory Resort, please visit purgatory.ski/events.



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Visit Durango and Purgatory Resort Host YETI Natural Selection DUELS

Purgatory Snowcat Adventures sets the stage for backcountry competition between two of the world's top snowboarders

Durango, CO — (Feb 1, 2024) — Purgatory Snowcat Adventures will host the first stage of the YETI Natural Selection DUEL during the 2024 Natural Selection Tour. Purgatory Snowcat Adventures is Colorado's largest snowcat skiing operation, providing access to 35,000 acres of legendary backcountry skiing in the San Juan Mountains.

The brainchild of snowboarder Travis Rice, the Natural Selection Tour showcases the world's top riders from Olympians to big mountain film icons all competing on the planet's most exciting natural and naturally-enhanced terrain. Natural Selection DUELS feature six iconic mountain venues from around the world, where head-to-head competition between two top riders will decide who moves on to the next stages in the 2024 Natural Selection Tour.

DUELS host, Purgatory Resort is tucked away between Durango and Silverton on the San Juan Skyway Scenic and Historic Byway, on the southern edge of the San Juan Mountains. The resort is home to the largest guided cat skiing operation in Colorado, with 35,000 acres of premier backcountry. Purgatory also offers 1,635 skiable acres, 4 terrain parks, 11 lifts, and 107 trails from wide-open cruisers to steep tree skiing.

The YETI Natural Selection DUEL held in Purgatory Resort's backcountry will feature a head-to-head competition between two of the world's top snowboarders, USA's Nils Mindnich and France's Victor

Daviet. The riders will be staying at Purgatory Lodge which offers luxury accommodations, ski in/ski out access and world class views of the Twilight Peaks. They will be riding the terrain at Purgatory and the surrounding area on down days in the competition window. All of the best action and the winners of Natural Selection DUELS will be unveiled in edited shows that will premiere starting in late February 2024 on Red Bull TV.

“Hosting Natural Selection DUELS in Durango, Colorado feels surreal - a dream come true personally and for the local snowboarding community as whole,” shared Visit Durango’s Marketing and Sales Director, John Ragozzino. We are incredibly lucky to have such supportive partners like Purgatory Resort and Purgatory Snowcat Adventures who have worked tirelessly to ensure epic conditions for Nils and Victor’s duel!”

To celebrate Natural Selection riders competing here in Durango, Colorado, The DoubleTree Hotel will host a meet and greet event on Feb. 5th at 6 p.m. All are welcome!

The winner of the Natural Selection DUEL competition held in Durango will join 18 returning and invited Natural Selection Tour riders for two LIVE competition days: the YETI Natural Selection Revelstoke and YETI Natural Selection Selkirk Tangiers held during the March 10-17 competition window. Learn more about Natural Selection events and watch them as they debut at naturalselectiontour.com.

About the Natural Selection Tour

The brainchild of Travis Rice, the Natural Selection Tour showcases the world’s top riders from Olympians to big mountain film icons all competing on the planet’s most exciting natural and naturally enhanced terrain. The 2024 Tour features three stages, as riders move through Natural Selection DUELS, the YETI Natural Selection Selkirk Tangiers and YETI Natural Selection Revelstoke events. The best all-mountain freestyle riders in the world will come together for the crowning of a men’s and women’s champion after the final day of live competition in Revelstoke. The Natural Selection Tour’s mission is to inspire people to forge a deeper relationship with Mother Nature.

About Visit Durango

Visit Durango is an independent nonprofit organization with the mission to promote Durango and La Plata County’s many tourism attractions, events, and services. The unbeatable combination of the iconic San Juan Mountains, art galleries, culinary fare, and cultural and historic sites make it the perfect base of operations to explore Southwest Colorado. Experience Visit Durango’s full-service visitor center at the Durango Welcome Center, located at Main Avenue and 8th Street in the heart of historic downtown Durango, or online at durango.org. Follow @visitdurango on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, LinkedIn and Pinterest.



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