



# Purgatory Resort

**Winter 2024-2025**

Press Kit

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## Purgatory Resort Company Profile

**Durango, Colo. — (Winter 2024-2025)** — 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. New this season, Purgatory announces several upgrades across the resort, including enhancements to the Hermosa Park Express Lift #3 and the expansion of Purgatory's retail footprint.

One of Colorado's most family-friendly and best value ski resorts, Purgatory is thrilled to continue offering [Power Kids](#), the only season pass in North American that offers unlimited free skiing and snowboarding for all children 12 and younger, no blackout dates or purchase required. Lift tickets for the 2024-2025 season are on sale now, with prices starting \$9 on select dates. With Purgatory's demand-based pricing, lift ticket prices rise with demand. Purgatory's dynamic pricing strategy rewards guests who plan ahead and helps the resort manage the flow of visitors during peak periods, reducing lift lines and enhancing the guest experience.

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 2024-2025 ski season is scheduled to begin on November 16 with exclusive discounts for season passholders and guests. This winter, Purgatory Resort will be open daily from November 16, 2024, to April 13, 2025, with weekend operations continuing Friday through Sunday until April 27, 2025. Visit [purgatory.ski](https://www.purgatory.ski).

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# Purgatory Resort Fact Sheet

## 2024-2025 Winter Season Dates and Times

Open daily November 16, 2024 to April 13, 2025, and weekends (Friday through Sunday) until April 27, 2025, 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 the most scenic drives in North America.

- ▼\* **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)

## 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

## 11 Lifts Serving 107 trails

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

## 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 Announces 2024-25 Winter Operating Schedule

**Durango, CO — (September 3, 2024)** — Purgatory Resort, one of Colorado’s most family-friendly and affordable ski resorts, is excited to unveil its 2024-25 winter operating schedule. This winter, Purgatory Resort will be open daily from November 16, 2024, to April 13, 2025, with weekend operations continuing Friday through Sunday until April 27, 2025.

This season features a series of capital improvements and new initiatives designed to enhance the guest experience and make skiing more accessible for everyone. One of the most notable upgrades this season is the enhancement of the Hermosa Park Express Lift #3. As a crucial lift on the mountain, essential for transporting guests from the backside to the frontside, Lift #3 will be modernized with a low voltage safety control system. This upgrade will ensure the lift’s reliability for years to come, improving access to the popular backside trails.

In addition to the Lift #3 upgrade, Purgatory is expanding its retail footprint and will introduce four new pickup stations for online purchases. Guests will now be able to scan their purchase confirmation and head straight to the lifts within 30 seconds, bypassing the ticket office entirely.

The Village Market & Deli is also undergoing a complete renovation, introducing an all-new menu and atmosphere. The updated selection will feature local and NOSH (natural, organic, specialty and healthy) grocery items, while the Powderhouse Lodge will see another phase of improvements to its interior and exterior infrastructure, along with a new retro theme.

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Building on the significant cleanup work in Poet's Glade last year, the Trail Maintenance team has been hard at work improving other popular tree skiing zones on the mountain, including Who, Mark's Park, When, What, Hoody's, and McCormack's Maze. These efforts, focused on removing deadfall and standing dead trees, reduce forest fuel loading and enhance skier safety by clearing snags and ground obstacles.

A cornerstone of Purgatory's commitment to accessibility is Power Kids, the only season pass in North America that provides unlimited free skiing for kids aged 12 and under, with no purchase required and no blackout dates.

Tickets for the 2024-25 season are now on sale, providing guests with the opportunity to secure the best deals through Purgatory's demand-based pricing strategy. This dynamic model adjusts ticket prices in real-time based on demand, rewarding those who purchase early with the lowest prices available. Guests are encouraged to buy tickets as soon as possible to take advantage of these savings. Tickets are available at [purgatory.ski](https://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](https://purgatory.ski).

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## **Purgatory Resort Announces Bonus Weekend of Skiing After Major Snowstorm**

**Durango, CO — (November 7, 2024) —** Purgatory Resort, one of Colorado's most family friendly and best value ski resorts, will open for a bonus weekend of skiing on Saturday and Sunday, November 9-10, 2024, following nearly a foot of snowfall over the past 48 hours. Purgatory will open for daily operations on November 16, as scheduled.

"We're thrilled to offer our guests an extra bonus weekend of early season skiing," said Dave Rathbun, Purgatory's General Manager. "Our team is working hard to open for ski season, and we're off to a great start with Mother Nature's help. We're taking full advantage of these early winter conditions to make snow at every opportunity, aiming to have top-to-bottom skiing ready for our official opening day on November 16."

Guests will upload Purgatory Express Lift 1 and lap Engineer Lift 2 with skiing on Westfork and El Diablo trails. Due to early season conditions, skiers and riders will download from the top of Lift 1 to return to the base area. Early season conditions exist, and Purgatory reminds everyone to 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.

Lift tickets are available for \$29 and can be purchased online or at the main ticket office at Purgatory Lodge, located in the base area. 2024-25 season passes, including the Power Pass, 12-Day Power Pass and 4-Day Power Pass will be valid. No additional discounts, vouchers, or promotions apply during the bonus weekend. Please visit [purgatory.ski](http://purgatory.ski) for more information.

Lifts will operate from 9 am to 3:30 pm, with limited guest services at the base area, including grilled fare and beer. Please note that no lessons or equipment rentals will be available during this bonus weekend, and on-mountain services will be limited to restrooms only. This winter, Purgatory Resort will be open daily from November 16, 2024, to April 13, 2025, with weekend operations continuing Friday through Sunday until April 27, 2025. For more details about Purgatory Resort, including lift tickets, season passes and lodging, visit [purgatory.ski](http://purgatory.ski).



## Lift Off! Purgatory Resort Opens for 2024-25 Daily Operations

**Durango, CO — (November 16, 2024)** — Purgatory Resort officially kicked off the 2024-25 winter season today with daily operations now underway. Skiers and snowboarders were welcomed back to the slopes with a complimentary Powder'ed Pancake Breakfast at Lift #1 Village Express this morning, followed by live music on the beach.

"We're thrilled to launch another fantastic winter season at Purgatory," said Dave Rathbun, Purgatory Resort's General Manager. "Thanks to our team's hard work, we were able to open for a bonus weekend with over a foot of fresh snow last weekend, marking one of the earliest days of skiing in resort history. With recent snowfall and ongoing snowmaking efforts, we're set for exceptional early-season conditions and a memorable start to the 2024-25 season."

For the first time in years, Purgatory is opening two weeks prior to Thanksgiving with top-to-bottom skiing. Guests can enjoy full access to Westfork, Sa's Psyche, Limbo, El Diablo, Upper Demon, Lower Demon, and a portion of Yellow Brick Road. A mini-version of the Headwaters Terrain Park is also open, featuring three tube and two box features. Thanks to significant early snowfall and efficient snowmaking, open terrain has an average base depth of 25 inches, providing ample coverage for the season opener.

This season brings exciting upgrades across the resort, including enhancements to the Hermosa Park Express Lift #3 and an expanded retail footprint. Purgatory's demand-based pricing strategy continues to offer exceptional value, with plenty of lift tickets still available for less than \$50 this season. Ticket prices rise with demand, so planning ahead and purchasing early remains the best way to secure the lowest rates of the season. Purgatory is also continuing the Power Kids season pass, offering unlimited free skiing for kids 12 and under with no blackout dates.

Purgatory reminds skiers and riders to prioritize safety as early-season conditions exist. Stay on open trails, keep speed in check, and maintain a safe distance from others on the mountain. The latest updates on lift operations, trail openings, and snowfall totals are available on Purgatory's snow report. Purgatory Resort will operate daily from November 16, 2024, through April 13, 2025, with weekend operations continuing Fridays through Sundays until April 27, 2025. For more information on lift tickets, season passes, and lodging, visit [purgatory.ski](https://purgatory.ski).



## Purgatory Resort Celebrates Inaugural Ullr Fest with Cold Plunges and Winter Parade

**Durango, CO — (November 30, 2024)** — Purgatory Resort is excited to launch Ullr Fest, joining the tradition of mountain towns and ski resorts honoring Ullr, the Norse God of skiing and snowboarding. Purgatory invites guests to embrace the Viking spirit and join in a day of Viking cold plunges, mythical sightings and winter festivities on Saturday, December 7 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Village Plaza base area.

“Ullr Fest is an exciting addition to our lineup of events that bring fun and energy to the mountain,” said Matt Ericksen, Purgatory’s marketing manager. “This celebration embraces the spirit of winter while we look ahead to an epic and snowy season. We’re also thrilled to partner with our North County neighbors at Durango Hot Springs to bring the Nordic tradition of cold plunges to Ullr Fest!”

### Event Highlights:

- **Viking cold plunges** at the base area, sponsored by **Durango Hot Springs**, a refreshing challenge for the bold.
- A **winter parade** celebrating all things winter with festive costumes and mythical creatures.
- **Bigfoot sightings** on the mountain, representing Southwest Colorado’s very own mythical symbol of winter and the rugged spirit of the San Juan Mountains.
- Guests are encouraged to dress in their best **costumes**, including Vikings, Bigfoot, Sasquatch, and other creative interpretations!

For more details about Ullr Fest, visit [purgatory.ski/event/ullr-fest-new](https://purgatory.ski/event/ullr-fest-new). Please visit [purgatory.ski](https://purgatory.ski) to learn more about lift tickets, season passes and lodging.





## Purgatory Resort Announces Winter 2024 Holiday Festivities

**Durango, CO — (December 17, 2024)** — Purgatory Resort announces a festive holiday event lineup, featuring family-friendly activities, signature on-mountain experiences and seasonal celebrations. Highlights include the Torchlight Parade and New Year's Eve Fireworks, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and scenic snowcat tours offering panoramic views of the San Juan Mountains. The Village Plaza base area will serve as the center for entertainment, dining and festivities throughout the holiday season.

### Purgatory 2024 Holiday Schedule

- **Ugly Sweater Parade**  
Date: December 22, 12:00–1:30 p.m.  
Skiers and riders are invited to show off their best (or worst) holiday sweaters during the Ugly Sweater Parade. Participants will meet at the base of Lift 1 at noon and ride up together for a group run. Prizes will be awarded for standout sweaters.
- **Santa and Mrs. Claus Visit**  
Date: December 22, 1:30–3:00 p.m.  
Santa, Mrs. Claus and the Coca-Cola Bear will visit Purgatory Resort to spread holiday cheer. Families can stop by the Beach area to meet Santa and share their Christmas wishes.
- **Shred With Santa**  
Date: December 24, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.  
Santa will hit the slopes on Christmas Eve, handing out gifts to guests throughout the day. Skiers and riders can use the Purgatory app or follow @skipurg on social media to track Santa's location. Watch out for the Grinch, who may be on the mountain as well.



- **Whiskey Tasting at Hoody's**  
Date: December 27, 5:00–6:30 p.m.  
Guests can enjoy a guided tasting of four premium whiskeys, including Woody Creek Straight Bourbon, TinCup Fourteener Bourbon, Distillery 291 Small Batch Bourbon, and Eagle Rare 10-Year Bourbon. A handcrafted cocktail will also be served. Tickets are \$27, and space is limited to 30 participants.
- **New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade and Fireworks**  
Date: December 31, 6:00–6:30 p.m.  
Purgatory Resort will celebrate New Year's Eve with its annual Torchlight Parade and fireworks display. Ski instructors and patrol members will descend the mountain with lit torches, followed by a fireworks show at the base area.
- **New Year's Eve Party at Purgy's**  
Date: December 31, 6:30–10:00 p.m.  
Following the Torchlight Parade and fireworks, guests can gather at Purgy's for the New Year's Eve Party. The celebration will include drinks, a cozy atmosphere, and music to ring in 2025.
- **Scenic Snowcat Tours**  
Dates: December 14–31, multiple daily departures  
Guests can enjoy panoramic mountain views with a scenic snowcat tour from Purgatory Snowcat Adventures. The experience begins with a chairlift ride up the Purgatory Village Express, followed by a relaxing snowcat ride through the surrounding landscape. Complimentary hot cocoa is included at the end of the trip. Tours depart at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. and last approximately two hours. Family-friendly; ages 3 and up are welcome.

This winter Purgatory Resort is open daily from November 16, 2024, through April 13, 2025, with weekend operations continuing Fridays through Sundays until April 27, 2025. For more information on lift tickets, season passes, and lodging, visit [purgatory.ski](https://www.purgatory.ski).



## Purgatory Resort Rings in the New Year with Exciting Event Lineup

**Durango, CO — (January 1, 2025)** — Purgatory Resort invites visitors to start the year with an exciting lineup of events and activities this January, offering something for everyone—from families and outdoor enthusiasts to seasoned skiers and snowboarders.

As part of [National Ski Safety Month](#), Purgatory will spotlight the importance of slope safety to educate guests on responsible skiing and snowboarding. Purgatory reminds guests in January and throughout the season to stay on open trails, keep their speed under control, and keep a safe distance from other visitors on the mountain.

### January Event Highlights Include:

- **First Tracks Brunch:** Board Lift 1 at 7:30 am to enjoy first tracks on Lift 3 before the mountain opens to the public at 9 am. A limited number of tickets are on sale now and include exclusive early access, a champagne toast, and buffet brunch at Backside Bistro.
- **Snowcat Dining Excursions:** Embark on a one-of-a-kind dining experience paired with breathtaking views of the San Juan Mountains.
- **Know the Snow Rando Race:** This ski mountaineering race challenges participants to push their limits while navigating a dynamic course, and it's for a great cause.
- **VNTRbirds Backcountry Basics:** Designed for women, this empowering backcountry safety course equips participants with essential skills for exploring beyond resort boundaries.
- **Snowdown Kickoff:** Celebrate Durango's beloved winter festival and find out the theme for Snowdown 2026 at Purgatory Resort.

For more information about Purgatory Resort's events and activities, please visit [purgatory.ski/events](https://purgatory.ski/events).



## **Purgatory Resort Highlights Adaptive Sports Program for National Learn to Ski Month**

**Durango, CO — (January 22, 2025) —** This Learn to Ski Month, Purgatory Resort is proud to partner with Durango’s Adaptive Sports Association (ASA), continuing a 41-year tradition of providing adaptive skiing and snowboarding lessons for individuals with disabilities. This long-standing collaboration underscores the resort’s commitment to making skiing and snowboarding accessible to everyone.

The Adaptive Sports Association’s winter program offers personalized instruction, state-of-the-art adaptive equipment, and a supportive environment for adults and youth with a wide range of disabilities. The program focuses on one-on-one lessons to ensure that participants receive tailored instruction to meet their unique needs.

“Our partnership with the Adaptive Sports Association highlights our shared mission to make skiing and snowboarding inclusive for all,” said Matt Ericksen, marketing director at Purgatory Resort. “It’s a privilege to host this program and support the life-changing experiences it provides to participants and their families.”

As Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month encourages newcomers to hit the slopes, ASA offers adaptive skiing, snowboarding and ski bike lessons with the goal to make winter sports accessible to everyone, regardless of ability. The program’s combination of expert instruction and cutting-edge adaptive equipment has made it a leader in the adaptive skiing community for four decades.

## Winter 2025 Program Overview

- Lesson Formats and Pricing:
- Full-day (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.): \$275 for adults (13+), \$195 for children (12 and under)
- Half-day (10 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.): \$195 for adults, \$115 for children
- Cost includes private instruction, equipment rental, and lift ticket
- Scholarships are available to ensure accessibility for all participants
- All military veterans with a disability rating receive free access to all winter programs through ASA

Since 1983, ASA's program has been a cornerstone of Durango's community, empowering individuals with disabilities to build confidence, independence, and a love for the outdoors. Purgatory Resort's role as host and sponsor has been integral to the program's success, offering an ideal venue for participants to explore skiing and snowboarding in an inclusive environment.

"Our partnership with Purgatory Resort is essential to the success of ASA's mission of providing transformative outdoor programs for individuals with disabilities," said Ann Marie Beresford, Executive Director with the Durango Adaptive Sports Association. "Together, we can break down barriers and create meaningful, life-changing experiences for individuals of all abilities to enjoy the freedom and joy of skiing."

For more information about the Adaptive Sports Association, visit [www.asadurango.com](http://www.asadurango.com). For information about Purgatory Resort's events and activities, please visit [purgatory.ski/events](http://purgatory.ski/events).

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# SAN JUAN SKYWAY SCENIC BYWAY



-  Hot Springs
-  National Forest Campgrounds
-  Airport

