



Vail Cascade's Fireside Bar is inviting for après ski cocktails and relaxation.

High Country Holiday

Jubilant celebrations, decking the halls and spending quality time with loved ones—while the holidays are generally a joyful time, unfortunately not every day of the season is as idyllic as a Thomas Kinkadee painting. If there's one important lesson about truly enjoying this festive time of year, it's that when the holiday "stressors" begin to rear their ugly heads—it's time to simplify things. Sometimes, a little pre-holiday getaway is all it takes to help relax and recharge. Yet we all know how unpredictable weather and crowded airports can make traveling by air even more of a hassle. Fortunately, Denverites need not travel far to truly escape for a weekend. A conveniently short excursion to the mountains is all that's required. Although Coloradoans are blessed with numerous choices when it comes to vacationing in a mountain town, celebrating the holidays in the luxurious town of Vail can feel as if you've traveled all the way to Europe.

Consistently applauded as one of the top ski resort destinations in North America in an annual poll conducted by *SKI magazine*, Vail, Colorado is also world-renowned for its outstanding shopping, out-of-this-world dining venues, remarkable accommodations and spas; celebrity-studded year-round festivals and quite certainly it's endless opportunity for outdoor adventure. More recently the already glitzy resort town has been un-



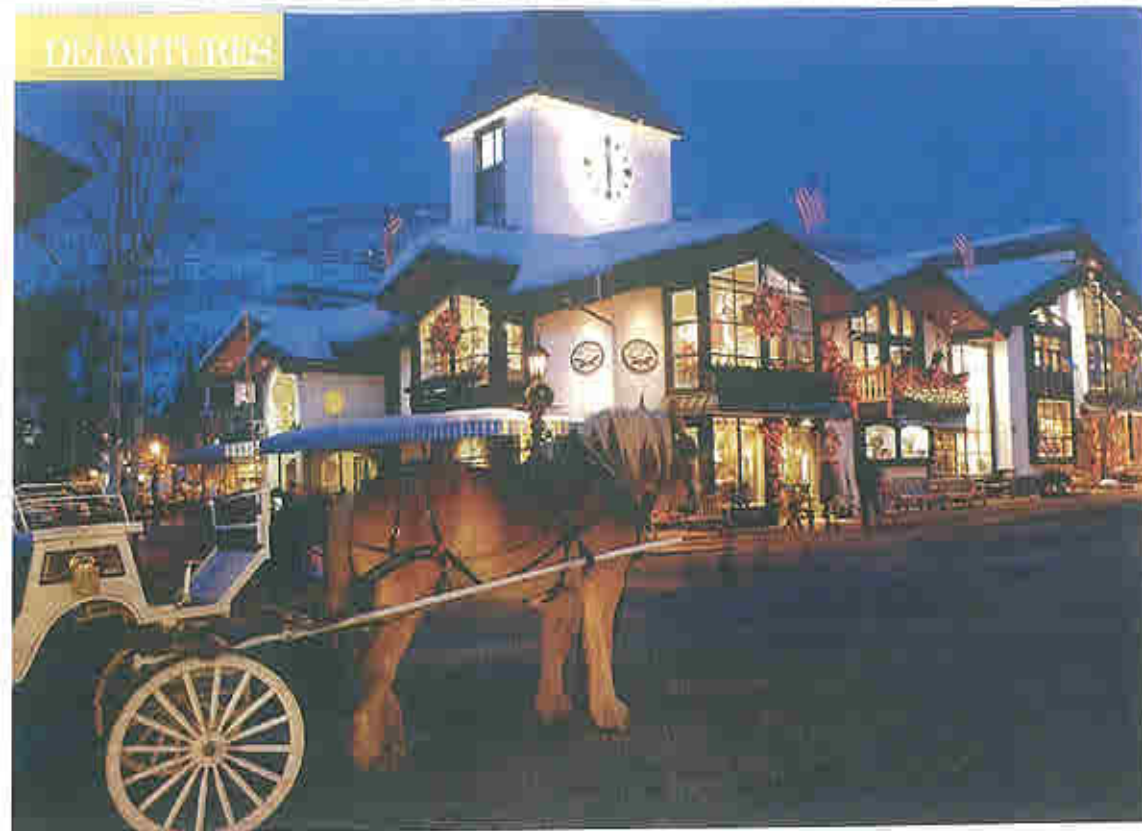
Vail Cascade Resort & Spa

dergoing a massive renaissance totaling more than one billion dollars in extensive renovations and upgrades, as well as welcoming the arrival of several new top-tier hotels, spas, retail shops and restaurants.

When it comes to luxury accommodations in Vail, there's certainly no shortage of choices. However, longstanding Vail Cascade Resort & Spa has been a mainstay in the famous ski town for the past 25 years. Recognized as one of Vail's landmark properties, the resort embarked on a \$30 million transformation this past summer, which includes remodeled public spaces, a new deck and patio on the back side of the hotel and also the addition of meeting space designed to transport the property to the forefront of meeting destination options.



JACK ARPLECK



CHRIS McLENNAN, VAIL RESORTS

Vail Village exudes holiday charm.

Nestled at the base of Vail Mountain alongside the babbling Gore Creek, Vail Cascade Resort & Spa is a AAA Four-Diamond rated ski-in/ski-out resort and boasts its own dedicated chairlift servicing the Vail ski area. The resort offers 292 plush guestrooms touting upscale amenities such as finely appointed bedding, granite vanity countertops and stone tile flooring. Twenty-seven of those rooms are elegantly adorned suites, but if you're planning on traveling with family or friends, then definitely consider booking one of Cascade's 80 spacious condominiums or private homes, ranging from one-bedroom units with 776 square feet of space up to seven-bedroom private residences at 4,596 square feet. With private, security-controlled parking, hotel services, exclusivity and more room to spread out in, the condominiums and private residences are definitely luxurious, designed to the hilt and are equipped with all of the comforts of home—including full kitchens, dining and living room areas and full balconies.

If one of your main goals for a mountain getaway is to rejuvenate, you'll be right at home at Vail Cascade's 78,000-square-foot Aria Spa & Club. The Spa, featuring more than 10,000 square feet of serene space, offers a multitude of spa packages, body treatments, massages and facials within 14 treatment rooms. But perhaps Aria Spa's most coveted aspect is the Sanctuary—a tranquil relaxation room complete with subdued lighting, the warm glow from a double-sided fireplace, fresh fruit, tea and water and soothing music that helps guests unwind before and after treatments. Additionally, the Spa is equipped with a couple's spa suite, manicure/pedicure stations, heated indoor and outdoor whirlpools, a heated outdoor pool and aromatherapy steam rooms. And no need to worry about tak-

ing time off from your normal fitness routine, as the Club features state-of-the-art fitness equipment, group classes and personalized instruction. Guests can even work with staff fitness trainers, many who are also seasoned athletes residing in the Vail Valley because of the benefits of high-altitude training and the varied terrain.

Vail's reputation for exquisite, highly rated eateries is quite simply well-deserved. After all, the area is home to a number of celebrities and worldly individuals possessing keenly refined palates. Yet for guests of Vail Cascade who are content to stay put for the weekend, the resort offers fine dining as well as a more casual tavern-style option. At press time, the resort was in the midst of renovating and revamping the restaurant with plans to open the new Atwater, On Gore Creek in late December 2008. Guests can also get cozy in front of the enormous double-sided rock fireplace at the resort's graceful Fireside Bar. Before sundown, the magnificent mountain views from this comfortable lounge entice guests to settle in with an après ski cocktail and appetizers while enjoying live entertainment.

If you do make your way into Vail Village, you'll be easily charmed by the town's old-world character and engaging atmosphere. Although the village is inviting at any time of the year, it's perhaps at its most endearing during the bustling holiday season when delicate white twinkly lights line the streets and a gigantic community Christmas tree sparkles for all to admire. For some, it's a scene straight out of a storybook...but that just may be exactly what you're searching for.

TRAVEL PLANNER

VAIL CASCADE RESORT & SPA

1 Mill Westwood Drive
Vail, CO 81657
970.466.3111

vailcascade.com

RATES

Room: Daily (includes
\$130-\$300
Guests during the winter:
\$425-\$1,000
Condominium/private
home: \$300-\$1,800

GETTING THERE

Vail is located approximately 100 miles west of Denver on Interstate 70. Vail and Vail Cascade is located adjacent to Vail Mountain along Gore Creek, just one mile west of Limerick Village and three miles west of Vail Village. Complimentary shuttle service to both villages is provided throughout the year by the resort.

LAST-MINUTE DEAL

Get in shape for this ski season with VAIL CASCADE RESORT'S SKI CONDITIONING BOOT CAMP! This special package is available November 7-9, 2008 and includes a one-night boot camp, post to Aria Spa & Club, special breakfast, clothing & athletic gear classes and a continental breakfast for \$109. Also enjoy 10 percent off massages in Aria Spa (limited based on double occupancy based on availability). Reservations may apply. Some restrictions may apply. For more information on resort fees, visit us at vailcascade.com or call 800.838.2424 and refer to offer code VCB001. **CALL** vailcascade.com

