

PAGOSA SPRINGS

OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE™



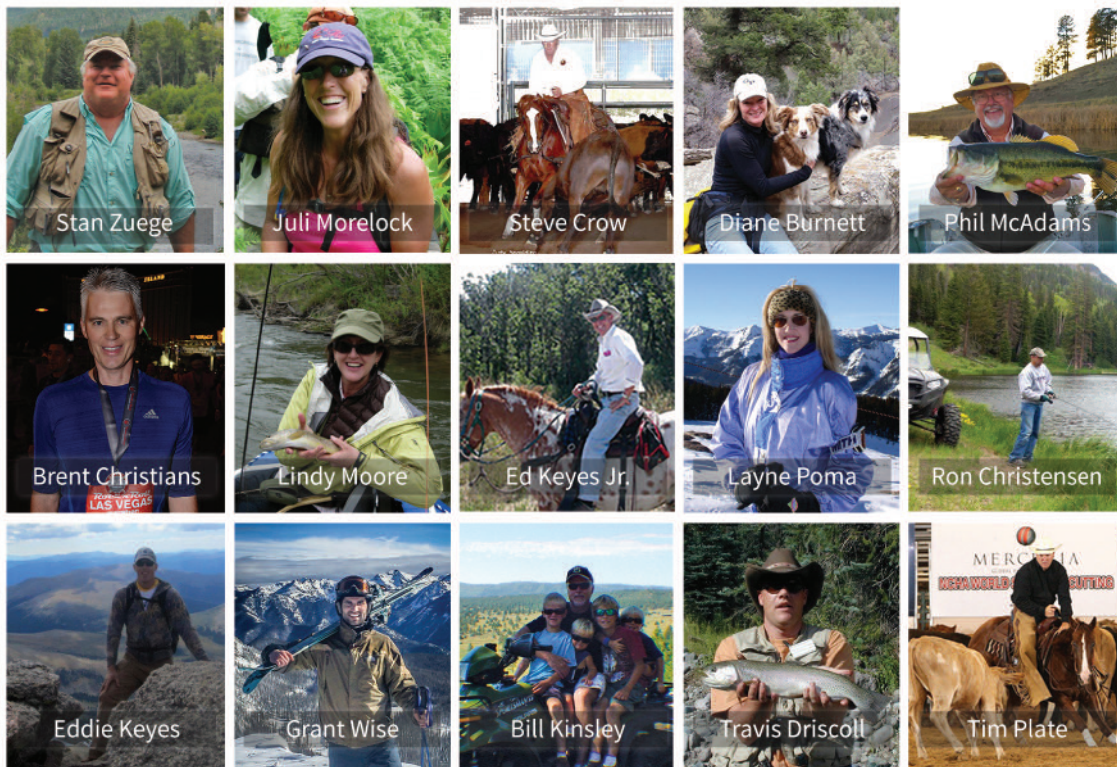
CALENDAR OF EVENTS • DINING • LODGING • SHOPPING
OUTDOOR ADVENTURES • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • MAPS
REAL ESTATE & HOME GUIDE • FAMILY FUN • HISTORY & MORE

FREE • WINTER 2017-2018 • A PUBLICATION OF THE PAGOSA SPRINGS SUN

Pagosa Springs. Let us help you make this your home.

We are skiers and mountain bikers and fly fishing enthusiasts. We are horseback riders, hunters, hikers and volunteers. We are the #1 Team of Real Estate Brokers in Pagosa Springs...and we are passionate about sharing with our clients this place we call home. Discover the Galles Properties difference. We'd be honored to earn your business.

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Downtown, Next To Theater | Uptown, City Market Center

Statistics based on volume sales per PSAAR MLS Data in cooperation with other Brokers.



\$4,950,000

CROSSBELL RANCH | 736051
 136 Acres ~ Custom Log Home ~
 Equestrian Facilities ~ 2 Large Ponds ~
 Water Rights ~ Views ~ Guest Home



\$3,395,000

HIDDEN VALLEY ESTATE | 721452
 100 Acres ~ Stunning Log Home ~ Creek
 ~ Large Pond ~ Barn/Shop ~ Bunk Room
 ~ Huge Views ~ Many Upgrades



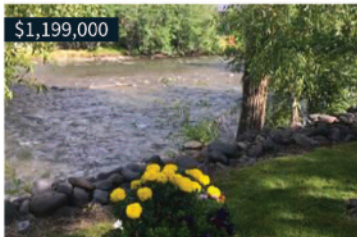
\$1,950,000

MILL CREEK DREAM | 737035
 97+ Acres ~ Custom 3,382 SF Home ~
 Borders Nat'l Forest ~ 40x60 Shop ~
 Expansive Views ~ Pasture ~ No HOA



\$1,295,000

ECHO CANYON ESTATE | 732959
 42 Acres Border 187 Acres Greenbelt ~
 3,346 SF Home ~ Main Floor Master ~
 1,400 SF Deck Space



\$1,199,000

LUXURY RIVERFRONT | 728566
 3,556 SF, 4 BR Home ~ Close To Nat'l
 Forest ~ Large Deck Overlooks River ~
 Many Upgrades ~ RV Pad ~ .5 Acre



\$996,000

CHROMO BEAUTY | 732671
 35+ Acres ~ Custom 4 BR Home ~ 1/3
 Acre Stocked Pond ~ Seasonal Creek ~
 Close To Nat'l Forest ~ Workshop



\$995,000

RIVERFRONT CUSTOM HOME | 736812
 3,254 SF Full Round Log Home ~ Master
 On Each Level ~ Chef's Kitchen ~ Garage
 w/1/2 Bath ~ Unfinished Guest Apt.



\$774,900

BLUE LAKE ESTATES | 719532
 3+ Acres ~ 4,181 SF/4 BR/5 BA ~
 Magnificent Views ~ 2 Office/Game
 Rooms ~ Heated Workshop



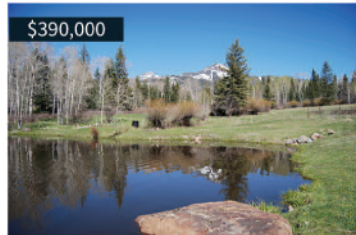
\$759,000

BORDERS NATIONAL FOREST | 733561
 4,036 SF, 4 BR Home ~ 4.5 Acres ~ Main
 Level Master ~ Gourmet Kitchen ~
 Finished Basement ~ 841 SF Garage



\$625,000

SW COLORADO FARM | 737414
 40 Acres ~ 25 Shares Water Rights ~
 Pond ~ Remodeled Manufactured Home
 ~ Barn ~ Addtl. Outbuildings



\$390,000

RITO BLANCO ACREAGE | 729601
 35.62 Acres ~ Borders Nat'l Forest ~ Well,
 Septic, Electric, Propane, Driveway ~
 Pond ~ Huge Views ~ One-Car Garage



\$299,900

LOST VALLEY GETAWAY | 734496
 .78 Acre ~ 1,719 SF/3 BR/3 BA Home~
 Beautiful Views ~ Access To National
 Forest ~ Offered Furnished



\$275,000

COLORADO LOG CABIN | 736591
 1,344 SF, 3 BR/2 BA Home ~ Near Lake
 Pagosa ~ Covered Deck ~ Recently
 Remodeled ~ 2-Car Garage



\$224,900

HILLTOP RETREAT | 734139
 2+ Acres ~ 1,564 SF ~ 3 BR/2 BA ~ Nestled
 In Trees ~ Private Lot ~ Easy Hwy. 160
 Access ~ Barn/Storage ~ Fenced



\$144,500

ALPINE LAKES ACREAGE | 723288
 35+ Acres ~ Nat'l Forest Access ~ Big
 Views ~ Pond ~ Driveway ~ Multiple
 Build Sites ~ Spence Lake Access



\$109,000

GOLF COURSE BUILD SITE | 735393
 2.63 Acre Parcel ~ Adjoins Golf Course ~
 Nice Views Of Golf Course Lakes &
 Fairways ~ Close To Core Area Amenities

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CHRIS RAPP, COURTESY OF WOLF CREEK SKI AREA

Welcome

For some visitors, winter in Pagosa has quite the reputation: plenty of snow and cold.

The reputation is only partly deserved. Yes, we get some impressive snowfall here.

Yes, there are times the bank of snow at the side of the house creeps past the top of the windows as it slides from the roof.

The peaks of the San Juan Mountains just east of Pagosa Springs are known for amazing snowfall, and Wolf Creek Ski Area legitimately boasts of the “most snow in Colorado” (as well as the best, with powder that can’t be equalled).

We handle it well. In fact, we enjoy it. When a “big dump” hits Pagosa Country, the crews that clear our roads and highways know their stuff and do a remarkably good job. It barely slows us down.

In other words, bring on the snow! We get around in fine fashion. So will you.

And it’s a good thing — there’s plenty to do and plenty to enjoy during the winter here.

Those of us who live in Pagosa Country year round not only know how to deal with snow, but we welcome it. The more, the better.

Why?

Because it turns this part of the world into a winter playground with few peers — a remarkably beautiful alpine environment in which every winter, outdoor recreation option is maximized. Alpine skiers, snowboarders, showshoers, cross-country skiers, fat bikers, snowmobilers, sledders, skaters — all benefit from being in Pagosa Country, for a day, for a week, for the season.

Our snow is not a problem here in Pagosa Country ... it’s a blessing.

Yes, it can get cold here. But it’s not the kind of cold you experience in low-altitude, high-humidity, windy environments. The winters here are fairly mild when it comes to the temperatures. The weather is usually perfect for peak winter experiences — offering some of the best winter fun you’ll find anywhere. The snow falls flat and often deep, and a general lack of wind makes for a white wonderland. The sun shines more often than not, and the



sparkling vistas are magnificent, calling you out of doors, promising a satisfying and memorable experience.

When winter comes and the snow falls from the clouds, we are ready in other ways — ways that ensure you have a memorable visit. Our local business community — lodging establishments, outdoor recreation equipment sales and rental outlets, clothing stores and restaurants — are ready to welcome you and provide you with all you need. We locals frequent these establishments, we patronize the stores, we use the services, we eat at the restaurants, we go to the movies, the theater productions, the art galleries. The many people, places and products here make our winters pleasurable, too. Pagosa Country

is chock full of tremendous businesses and wonderful talents, and they await your arrival.

Among those wonderful folks are some of the most treasured and valuable members of our Pagosa family — the people who create and operate the many nonprofit organizations, clubs and programs that help make life here so comfortable. They make this place their home; they work diligently on behalf of groups and programs that serve a full spectrum of worthy causes and interests. They are as well acquainted with this place and its people as anyone.

If you are a visitor during the winter, take advantage of all we have to offer. You are our guest; we welcome you.

RANDI PIERCE

When your vacation plans change...

we are here to make it *better.*

Appointments and walk-ins welcome
Monday-Saturday 8:00am-4:00pm

PAGOSA SPRINGS
Medical Center

Better health and wellness
where you play

Primary Care 970.731.3700

95 S. PAGOSA BLVD | pagosamed.org | 



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in the dust.

PAGOSA SPRINGS
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Orthopedic Surgery + Sports Medicine

Getting you back
to the activities you love.

970.731.3700



Primary Care 970.731.3700 | M-F 7:30a-5p; Walk-ins: Mon-Sat 8a-4p
Emergency 911 | 95 S. PAGOSA BLVD | pagosamed.org | 

Frequently Asked Questions

Where is Pagosa Springs?

Pagosa Springs is an outdoor lover's paradise nestled at more than 7,000 feet in altitude in southwest Colorado's rugged San Juan Mountains. With spectacular fall colors, snow-covered peaks, Chimney Rock National Monument, incredible hunting, amazing wildlife, clean air and 2.5 million acres of national forest, Pagosa offers countless opportunities to soak up the scenery in every season.

Who can I contact for info?

To get started exploring Pagosa Springs, check out www.ExplorePagosa.com for information on lodging, restaurants, recreational activities and more. Potential visitors can also call the Visitor Center's vacation line at (800) 252-2204. Archuleta County news and events can be found in The Pagosa Springs SUN, the community's weekly newspaper, with weekday online updates at www.PagosaSUN.com.

What is it like at altitude?

Regardless of your level of physical fitness, acute mountain sickness can strike anyone not acclimated to Pagosa's 7,000-foot elevation. To stay well during your visit and to get the most out of your time in Pagosa Springs, it is recommended that visitors follow a few pieces of altitude advice:

- Drink three to four quarts of water per day.
- Avoid overexertion, caffeine and alcohol for the first few days.
- Take a day or two to acclimate before venturing to higher-elevation destinations.
- Seek medical attention if persistent headache, fatigue, poor coordination or shortness of breath occur.

What is the weather like?

In a word, the weather in Pagosa Springs is beautiful. Archuleta County is located just 28 miles north of the New Mexico border and along the western slope of the Continental Divide. The combination of high desert plateau and dramatic Rocky Mountains to the north and east creates an unusual microclimate. Because of this, Pagosa Springs has it all, with warm, pleasant summers,

long autumns with gorgeous colors and plenty of dry, powdery snow. On average, Pagosa residents enjoy 300 days of sun each year, as well as four distinct and uniquely beautiful seasons. With low wind and warm sunshine, residents can enjoy a variety of year-round recreational activities.

Average Days of Sunshine: 300 per year

Annual Precipitation: 20.21 inches/year

Annual Snowfall: 101.4 inches/year

Average Monthly Temperatures:

Month	High	Low	Month	High	Low
Jan.	43°F	8°F	July	87°F	48°F
Feb.	47°F	14°F	Aug.	84°F	48°F
March	55°F	21°F	Sept.	77°F	39°F
April	63°F	26°F	Oct.	67°F	29°F
May	73°F	33°F	Nov.	53°F	19°F
June	82°F	39°F	Dec.	43°F	10°F

Is there a medical facility?

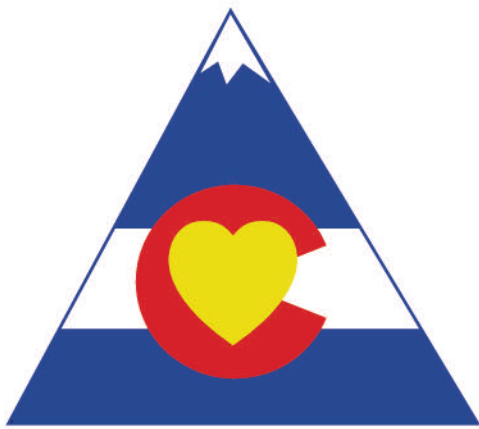
- Pagosa Springs Medical Center has a critical access hospital located at 95 S. Pagosa Blvd. Contact the hospital by calling (970) 731-3700.
- Hospital and EMS services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Other medical facilities and private practices are available.
- Dial 911 for emergency services.

Important phone numbers:

EMERGENCIES DIAL "911" (ambulance, EMT, fire, police)

For non-emergency ambulance, fire, EMT, police, dial 731-2160

Archuleta County Dispatch	(970) 731-2160
Archuleta County Commissioners ..	(970) 264-8300
Archuleta County Sheriff's Office.....	(970) 264-8430
Archuleta School District 50 Joint ...	(970) 264-2228
Colorado State Patrol Headquarters	(303) 239-4501
Colorado State Patrol District 5	(719) 589-2503
Emergency Medical Services.....	(970) 731-2160
La Plata Electric Association.....	(970) 247-5786
Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation ..	(970) 731-2691
Pagosa Fire Protection District.....	(970) 731-4191
Pagosa Springs Police	(970) 264-4151, ext. 228
Pagosa Springs Post Office.....	(970) 264-5440
Pagosa Springs Town Hall	(970) 264-4151
The Pagosa Springs SUN.....	(970) 264-2100
Senior Center	(970) 264-2167
Black Hills Energy.....	(800) 563-0012
Southern Ute Indian Tribe	(970) 563-0100
Stevens Field Airport, Manager.....	(970) 731-3060
Stevens Field FBO	(970) 731-2127
Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library ..	(970) 264-2209
Victim Assistance	(970) 264-9075



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Amber Reiss-Holt, MD



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Including breast cancer treatment

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primary care

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Pagosa Medical Group
27B Talisman Drive #3
Pagosa Springs, CO
(Next to Tavern Le Boeuf)

Hours: 11AM-7PM M-Sat



PAGOSA
Medical Group



Pagosa Springs

For more than a century, Pagosa Country has enchanted visitors with its stunning natural beauty.

Snow-covered mountain peaks, clear blue skies and healing mineral waters captivate guests who cannot help but be charmed by the relaxed, friendly atmosphere of life in the San Juan Mountains.

The elements that contribute to Pagosa's magic are many: wild game, stately timbers, lush valleys, sparkling rivers, scenic seclusion and the craggy peaks of the rugged San Juan Mountains. Unlike so many modern "retreats" in the Rockies, Pagosa Country doesn't offer everything money can buy, but it does offer countless things money can't buy.

Leave the hustle and bustle of city living and the glitz of Rocky Mountain resort towns — escape to Pagosa.

Basic services abound

Pagosa has everything guests and residents need to be entertained and accommodated. A public library, art galleries, a movie theater, museums, numerous restaurants and a variety of specialty shops

provide plenty of opportunities for amusement. Churches, gas stations, grocery stores, hotels, motels and public and private health care facilities are also available to fill any need.

Information is available

Head to the Visitor Center for directions and information on all Pagosa has to offer. Located on the right side of Hot Springs Boulevard just after you cross the bridge over the San Juan River, the Visitor Center, which is designed to represent one of Pagosa Springs' early-day bathhouses, offers a wealth of information. With a knowledgeable staff familiar with the ins and outs of Pagosa, the Visitor Center is the place to go for questions, concerns, tips and advice, as well as pamphlets, maps and brochures for the area's events, destinations and other attractions.

World's largest hot spring

A short walk south from the Visitor Center will take you to "The Great Pagosa Hot Spring" — certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as the deepest geothermal

hot spring in the world. From the Visitor Center, follow the sidewalk down Hot Springs Boulevard until you're southwest of The Springs complex and follow the paved path to the right.

The Springs Resort & Spa offers an outdoor pool and a variety of outdoor geothermal hot tubs located next to the San Juan River, featuring water temperatures to suit every need and taste, as well as a spacious bathhouse with locker rooms and showers. The resort is a popular place to take in the sights and sounds of beautiful Pagosa Springs while relaxing in the warmth of the springs and the coolness of the mountain air. Across the street, the Healing Waters Resort and Spa on the corner of San Juan Street and Hot Springs Boulevard also offers an outdoor swimming pool along with indoor mineral baths fed by a geothermal well that taps into the Pagosa Springs aquifer. Another good option for soaking is The Overlook Mineral Springs Spa located in the heart of the downtown historic district, which offers Victorian-style mineral baths and a rooftop pool with mountain views.



REG LARKIN

Outdoor activities

Pagosa Springs is overflowing with opportunities to engage in outdoor adventures. To help you find the best places to enjoy your favorite activities, stop by the U.S. Forest Service Pagosa Ranger District Office at the corner of 2nd and Pagosa streets. The staff there can provide a wealth of information on all manner of seasonal activities, including hunting, area ski or snowshoeing routes, snowmobiling, winter camping opportunities, ice fishing, rafting, hiking and horseback riding.

For the area's earliest Native inhabitants, Pagosa was considered a land of healing waters. For today's vacationers, Pagosa is a land of invigorating experiences, from the depths of the healing pools to the mountains and valleys that beckon enthusiasts year round.

If this is your first time to Pagosa Country, make yourself at home in the midst of the most beautiful scenery and friendliest people in Colorado.

If you've been here before, welcome back.



**THINGAMAJIG'S
WINTER
17/18**

TUNA CHRISTMAS

BY JASTON WILLIAMS, JO SEARS AND ED HOWARD
DECEMBER 15-28, 2017

**COMEDY.
DRAMA.
SURPRISES.**

CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION

BY ANNIE BAKER
JANUARY 12-28, 2018

TICKETS & INFO

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PAGOSACENTER.ORG

WELCOME TO SIBERIA ... NOW

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BY KARL ISBERG
FEBRUARY 16-25, 2018

LIVE THEATER YEAR ROUND

IN RESIDENCE
AT THE PAGOSA
SPRINGS CENTER
FOR THE ARTS

PROOF

BY DAVID AUBURN
MAY 4-27, 2018



Thingamajig Theater Company is in residence at the  **PAGOSA SPRINGS CENTER for the ARTS** 2313 Eagle Dr., Pagosa Springs, CO.



RANDI PIERCE

The Basics

Location

Archuleta County is located in southwest Colorado, situated at the junction of highways 160 and 84 at an elevation of 7,079 feet. The county seat, Pagosa Springs, is located just 28 miles north of the New Mexico border and 60 miles east of Durango. It is also near the Four Corners, where Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona meet.

Geography

Land area (square miles) — 1,350
Persons per square mile — 9

Physical Description

Archuleta County is comprised of 867,263 acres. Only 31 percent of lands in Archuleta County are in private ownership. Tribal lands comprise 14 percent of the county. Most of the northern and eastern portions of the county (49 percent) are within the San Juan National Forest and are under the management of the U.S. Forest Service. There is a total of approximately 2.5 million acres of national forest and Bureau of Land Management land surrounding Archuleta County.

Population Archuleta County

2010 Census — 12,084
2016 Estimate — 12,854

Newspaper

The Pagosa Springs SUN
Weekly newspaper with daily online updates at www.pagosahun.com.
Located at 457 Lewis St.
(970) 264-2100

Housing and Income

Median value of housing — \$264,300
Households — 5,343
Persons per household — 2.24
Per capita money income — \$28,506
Median household income — \$48,186
Persons below poverty — 14.7 percent

Taxes

Sales and User Tax: 2.9 percent state and 4 percent county. County tax revenue is divided between county and town.

Lodgers' Tax: A 4.9-percent tax is collected from the lodging industry in the town of Pagosa Springs, and 1.9 percent from lodging in Archuleta County. Those revenues are used for tourism promotion in both the town and the county.

Primary source of town and county revenue: Retail sales taxes, property taxes and charges for services.

Government

Town Government: www.pagosasprings.co.gov
Home Rule Municipality
Town council with elected mayor and six councilors elected for alternating four-year terms, town administrator is appointed.
Date of Incorporation: 1891.

County Government: www.archuletacounty.org
Three county commissioners elected for alternating four-year terms.

Tourism and Business Development

Pagosa Springs Community Development Corp.
pagosaspringscdc.org
(970) 264-2360
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of Commerce
(970) 264-2360
pagosachamber.com
Pagosa Springs Area Tourism Board
(800) 252-2204
visitpagosasprings.com

Related Web Site Links and Info

Pagosa Springs Area Association of Realtors
(970) 731-4015, pagosaspringsrealtors.com
U.S. Postal Service, Hot Springs Boulevard
(970) 264-5440
U.S. Forest Service Pagosa Ranger District Office
(970) 264-2268, www.fs.fed.us
Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library
(970) 264-2209, pagosalibrary.org
Stevens Field Airport
(970) 731-3060, www.stevensfield.com
AWOS frequency 127.175, (970) 731-0365
FBO (970) 731-2127
Durango-La Plata County Airport
(970) 382-6050, flydurango.com

Road Conditions

Colorado Department of Transportation
(303) 639-1111, cotrip.org
New Mexico Road Report
(800) 432-4269, nmroads.com

Marijuana laws: remain responsible and legal

It's now well-known, marijuana — both for medicinal and recreational purposes — is legal in Colorado. But, while it may be legal, there are a few things you should know, whether you plan on partaking or not, to remain responsible and legal.

First, there are differences in the laws regarding medicinal and recreational marijuana. To obtain marijuana for medicinal purposes, you must be a Colorado resident with a state red card, which can only be obtained with recommendation from a doctor. With that red card, medicinal users can obtain marijuana from a licensed center, primary caregiver or can grow a limited amount themselves. For more information about medical marijuana, visit <https://www.colorado.gov/enforcement/marijuanaenforcement>.

To buy or possess retail marijuana for recreational purposes, you must be 21 or older. It's illegal to give or sell retail marijuana to minors.

Retail marijuana can be purchased at licensed retail stores. There are multiple licensed retail stores within the town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County.

Adults are allowed to possess 1 ounce or less of retail marijuana in the state of Colorado. Residents 21 and older can purchase up to 1 ounce of marijuana at a time, while nonresidents can

purchase one-quarter ounce at a time.

Marijuana, however, cannot be consumed publicly, on public land (including, but not limited to, the national forest and Wolf Creek Ski Area), or be accessible to the public. It also cannot be consumed in any indoor, but public, areas — like restaurants, bars or common areas in buildings.

Private business owners, including lodging facilities, can choose whether or not to allow marijuana in their establishment. To determine if consumption is allowed in any lodging establishment or not, check with the company's staff.

Marijuana is permissible in cars, but cannot be in an open container or cross state lines (with neighboring states sometimes actively checking cars leaving Colorado). It is illegal to consume marijuana in vehicles or to drive while under the influence of marijuana.

Possession and consumption rules are the same no matter the form (edible or to be smoked), and violators are subject to prosecution, with penalties ranging from fines to possible jail or prison sentences. It should also be noted that marijuana, of all kinds, remains illegal at the federal level.

Too, any partaking should be done carefully and responsibly.

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Nationwide 24/24 Parts & Labor Warranty



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Customer Waiting Room & Free Shuttle Service in Pagosa

Calendar of Events

Weekly

Every Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Library Storytime

Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Great stories, fun songs and plenty of reasons to get up and move. All ages.
pagosalibrary.org

Every Saturday, 9:05 a.m.
Baby Storytime

Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
A short session of stories, songs and fingerplays for you and your little one.
pagosalibrary.org

Every Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
Toddler Storytime

Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Join us for fun stories, finger plays and more. Perfect for young children 12 months to 3 years and a parent or caregiver.
pagosalibrary.org

Every Sunday
Bingo

Parish Hall. Open 5 p.m., early bingo 5:45 p.m., bingo 6-8 p.m. Concessions, cash prizes.

October

Thursday, Oct. 12, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics.
pagosalibrary.org

Thursday, Oct. 19, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics. pagosalibrary.org

Oct. 21, 7 p.m.
Pagosa Springs Community Band
Fall Concert
Pagosa Springs High School Auditorium
The Community Band is an all-volunteer concert band composed of brass, woodwinds and percussion and sprinkling of strings. Admission is free; donations accepted with gratitude.

Oct. 21, 7-11 p.m.
Rotary Third Annual Jewels and Jeans
Barn Dance
Archuleta County Extension Building
Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door
Music by Country Thunder

Thursday, Oct. 26, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics. pagosalibrary.org

Oct. 27, 5-7 p.m.
Halloween Lock-in
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Join us for an evening of games, movies and crafts at the library. Open to ages 12-17. Permission form required. pagosalibrary.org

Oct. 28
Halloween Carnival
Yamaguchi Park
Noon-2 p.m., weather permitting.

Oct. 31, 2-3 p.m.
Halloween Storytime
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Wear your costume to the library. We will be reading spooky stories and doing different games and activities. pagosalibrary.org

Oct. 31, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Pumpkin Contest
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Pumpkins can be carved, painted or decorated. Pumpkin artists will enter the pumpkins into the appropriate age category: preschool, ages 5-7, ages 8-11, ages 12-17 and adult. pagosalibrary.org

November

Thursday, Nov. 2, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics. pagosalibrary.org

Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Holiday Bazaar
Ross Aragon Community Center.
Fifty-two booths, assortment of locally made Christmas decorations, pottery, jewelry, fiber arts, and more. Sponsored by the Pagosa Springs Realtors Community Outreach.
www.facebook.com/PSRCOR/

Thursday, Nov. 9, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics. pagosalibrary.org

Nov. 11
LEGO Contest
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Submissions must be turned in between Nov. 6 and 9; winners will be announced after LEGO Club on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 12:15 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for each of five age categories: preschool, ages 5-7, ages 8-11, ages 12-17, adult 18-up.
pagosalibrary.org

Thursday, Nov. 16, 5-6:30 p.m.
Lifelong Learning Lecture Series
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Variety of topics. pagosalibrary.org

Nov. 30
Festival of Trees
Ross Aragon Community Center

Nov. 30
Parade of Stores Shopping Extravaganza
pagosachamber.com

December

Dec. 1
Festival of Trees
Ross Aragon Community Center

Dec. 1-Dec. 3
Parade of Stores Shopping Extravaganza
pagosachamber.com

Dec. 14, 4-6 p.m.
Hot Chocolate Hullabaloo
Ruby Sisson Memorial Library
Come celebrate the holidays with us and drink some hot cocoa. You will be creating your very own seasonal crafts to take home. Fun event for all ages. pagosalibrary.org

Dec. 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28 at 7 p.m., Dec. 17, 24 at 2 p.m.
"Tuna Christmas"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
By Ed Howard, Joe Sears and Jaston Williams.
It's Yuletide season in itty bitty Tuna, the third smallest town in Texas where the Lions Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies! Between the holiday yard display contest and the Little Theatre's "A Christmas Carol" on the brink of cancellation, it's a miracle anyone gets tinsel on a tree. Two actors play all 22 colorful citizens of Tuna, including OKKK Radio hosts Thurston Wheelis and Arles Struvie who report on the small-town festivities. This satirical ode to the season is spiked with enough sass and shenanigans to make for one Texas-sized jolly holiday.
pagosacenter.org

Dec. 16, Jan. 13 and Feb. 10, 10 a.m.
Free Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinics
Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts
Dec. 16 at West Fork; Jan. 13 at Cloman Park; and Feb. 10 at the Lavery Ranch.
Skate ski and classic cross-country ski basics will be shared by some of Pagosa Springs' best skiers, all free of charge. Bring your ski gear: skate skis or classic kick and glide. The clinic is free, however, donations of \$5-\$10 per person are encouraged.
pagosanordic.com

Dec. 17, 3 p.m.
The Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends Concert

Calendar of Events

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Sponsored by The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society which oversees the Pagosa Springs Community Band. Tickets are \$10.

Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

The Heralds of Christmas Brass and Friends Concert

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Sponsored by The Pagosa Springs Instrumental Music Society which oversees the Pagosa Springs Community Band. Tickets are \$10.

Dec. 20, 2-3 p.m.

Cookie Contest

Ruby Sisson Memorial Library

Bring two dozen cookies that you have baked (and a list of ingredients); no peanuts, please. Sample and vote for your favorites. There are three age categories: 12 and under, teens and adults. Parents must attend with children. All ages; registration required. pagosalibrary.org

January

Jan. 6, 9 a.m.

DUST2 Fat Bike Race, 9 a.m.

Cloman Park

Registration and check-in 8:15-8:45 a.m. 16km, 8km and Kid km. A fun, fat tire bike race on groomed snow trails. Great fun for all ages! \$20/adults, \$10/under 18. All proceeds benefit DUST2. pagosanordic.com

Jan. 7, 9 a.m.

Ski-athlon

Cloman Park

Registration and check-in 8:15-8:45 a.m. This race has two legs, a 7km skate ski and a 7km classic ski. pagosanordic.com

Jan. 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 14, 21 and 28 at 2 p.m.

"Circle Mirror Transformation"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By Annie Baker.

In an artsy small town, an unlikely collection of strangers sign up for Marty's "Adult Creative Drama" class: a recently divorced carpenter, a high school junior, a former actress and Marty's husband. Unfolding like a charmingly funny indie film, the group plays Marty's imaginative (and sometimes awkward) theater games. But as their relationships develop over the course of the summer, the seemingly silly games generate some real-life drama. This delightful comedy from new playwright Annie Baker landed on Top Ten lists of The New York Times and The New Yorker for 2010.

Jan. 20-21, 8:30 a.m.

Pagosa Paw Dog Sled, Canine Skijoring and Cani-Cross Races

Located at the Toner Ranch, 15 miles north on Piedra Road

A great spectator event. This two-day winter dog sports event includes spectacular dog sled racing, as well as Nordic skiing. Races start at 8:30 a.m. both days and include a six-dog/6-mile sled race, four-dog/4-mile sled race, two-dog/6-mile skijor race (dog pulls you on skis), one-dog/4-mile skijor race. There will also be sportsman class races: 4-mile sled; 4-mile skijor; 1-mile sled; 1-mile skijor. This is an incredible spectator event! You will want to arrive well before 8 a.m. to catch the excitement as dog sled teams gear up for their run. pagosanordic.com

Jan. 31

Moonlight Ski, 7 p.m.

Cloman Park

A free event under the rising moon. Bring a headlamp or flashlight for backup, but be ready to turn the lights out and enjoy this fun and unique experience! Please arrive early enough to gear up and warm up.

February

Feb. 3 and 4

WinterFest

A number of activities are slated for the weekend where people can participate or enjoy the festivities through spectating. Hot air balloons, Anything Goes Downhill Sled Race, Penguin Plunge and more. pagosachamber.com

Feb. 3, 9 a.m.

WinterFest BB Gun Biathlon

Yamaguchi Park

No shooting experience needed. Great fun for all ages! The races begin at 9 a.m. sharp. Registration and check in 8-8:45 a.m. Please arrive early enough to sign in, gear up and warm up before 9 a.m. Racers will have an opportunity to test shoot at targets between 8-8:45 a.m. The event is a freestyle ski event in which participants can either classic cross-country ski or skate ski. You may sign up for the citizens 6k course or the competitive 16k course. The KidK will be determined based on the kids that enter. They love this race! Prizes for the top finishers and participant drawing giveaways immediately following the race. The race is free, however, donations are strongly encouraged. pagosanordic.com

Feb. 4, 9 a.m.

DUST2 Fat Bike Race, 9 a.m.

Yamaguchi Park

Registration and check-in 8:15-8:45 a.m.

16km, 8km and Kidkm. A fun, fat tire bike race on groomed snow trails. Great fun for all ages! \$20/adults, \$10/under 18. All proceeds benefit DUST2. pagosanordic.com

Feb. 16, 17, 22, 23 and 24 at 7 p.m., Feb. 18, 25 at 2 p.m.

"Welcome to Siberia — Now, Go Home"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By Karl Isberg.

The Chamber of Commerce in a small, Colorado mountain town hosts a bi-annual get-together for new arrivals to what has become a thriving retirement and second-home community — a town without industry, but suddenly flourishing due to its new arrivals, and the activities that accompany them. The event offers the newcomers refreshments, entertainment, and information about the history, amenities and character of the place. The regular host is unavailable and suitable replacements are impossible to muster. As a result, a last-minute host is recruited, and the question becomes: How many of the new arrivals will sell their "dream home" and move back to -? pagosacenter.org

May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25 and 26 at 7 p.m. and May 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 2 p.m. "Proof"

Pagosa Springs Center for the Arts

By David Auburn.

On the eve of her 25th birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Now, following his death, she must deal with her own volatile emotions: the arrival of her estranged sister, Claire; and the attentions of Hal, a former student of her father's who hopes to find valuable work in the 103 notebooks that her father left behind. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father's madness — or genius — will she inherit? pagosacenter.org

Be sure to check The Pagosa Springs SUN and PREVIEW for up-to-date information. An events calendar can be found at PagosaSUN.com.



Nordic club events

PAGOSA NORDIC CLUB

Learn to Cross-Country Ski Clinics
Saturdays, Dec. 16, Jan. 20 and Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-noon
Location to be announced.

Introductory skate ski and classic cross-country ski basics will be shared by some of Pagosa Springs' best skiers. Come learn how to make these outdoor winter activities even more enjoyable. Bring your ski gear — skate skis or classic kick and glide skis. Local ski shops rent cross-country ski gear and offer special rental discounts for these clinics — just mention you are attending the clinic.

A donation of \$5-\$10/person is requested.

DUST2 Fat Bike Race
Saturday, Jan. 6, 9 a.m.
Location to be announced.

Choose from the 8km, 16km or KidK course.

Entry fee \$20 adults and \$10 kids. Fundraiser for DUST2 (Downtown Urban Single-Track Trails).

Snow conditions will determine the event location.

Pagosa Skiathlon
Sunday, Jan. 7, 9 a.m.
Cloman Park

This race has two legs, a 7km skate ski and a 7km classic ski.

Participate solo or as a team. Entry fee is \$25 solo or \$15 per team member. Awards for top finishers.

Pagosa Paw Dog Sled, Canine Skijoring and Cani-Cross Races
Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20-21, 8:30 a.m.
Located at the Toner Ranch, 15 miles north on Piedra Road.

A great spectator event. This two-day winter dog sports event includes spectacular dog sled racing, as well as Nordic skiing. Races start at 8:30 a.m. both days and include dog sled races and skijor races (dog pulls you on skis). Cash prizes are awarded for competitive entries (based on a combined score for racing both days) and there are ribbons and prize drawings for sportsman participants who just want to try it out. Spectators are encouraged to arrive as early as 7:45 a.m. to watch sled teams prepare for the 8:30 a.m. races.

Moonlight X-C Ski
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7 p.m.
Cloman Park

A fun free activity under the rising moon. Bring a headlamp or flashlight. Arrive early enough to gear up.

WinterFest BB Gun Biathlon
Saturday, Feb. 3, 9 a.m.
Location to be announced.

This is a super fun event for all ages (10 years and older). Whether you are a competitive racer, casual skier or kid, there will be a course that fits your skill level and everyone will have a great time. Red Ryder BB guns will be provided. Each skier shoots at targets three times between ¼ ski distances. An excellent family event with great prizes. Entry fee is donation based: \$25/16km, \$20/8km and \$5/KidK.

Winterfest Fat Bike Race
Sunday, Feb. 4, 9 a.m.
Location to be announced.

Choose from the 8km, 16km or KidK course.

Entry fee \$20 adults and \$10 kids. Fundraiser for DUST2 (Downtown Urban Single-Track Trails).

Visit PagosaNordic.com for event dates, locations and details, trail grooming reports and trail maps, and see The Pagosa Springs SUN, www.PagosaSUN.com, for updated additional information on Pagosa Nordic events.

Wolf Creek Ski Area Events

Nov. 3	Tentative Opening Day	Jan. 28	Fun Race
Nov. 5	College Day	Feb. 3	Camp Robbers
Nov. 8	Local's Day	Feb. 3	Telemark Clinic
Nov. 10-12	Veterans' Weekend	Feb. 4	Super Bowl Race
Nov. 12	College Day	Feb. 4	Local's Day
Nov. 15	Local's Day	Feb. 10	Camp Robbers
Nov. 18	Cosmic Race	Feb. 11	Mardi Gras Race
Nov. 19	Ladies' Day	Feb. 18	President's Day Race
Nov. 27	Local's Day	Feb. 25	Winter Olympic Fun Race
Nov. 29	Local's Day	Feb. 25	College Day
Dec. 3	College Day	Feb. 27	Baby Boomers' Clinic
Dec. 6	Local's Day	Feb. 28	Local's Day
Dec. 9	Fun Race	March 3	College Day
Dec. 10	Ladies' Day	March 3	Giant Slalom Race
Dec. 10	Telemark Clinic	March 4	Intro to Off Piste Tour
Dec. 24 and 25	Santa Visits Wolf Creek	March 4	Ladies' Day
Jan. 7	Ladies' Day	March 10	Spring Fling Race
Jan. 7	Fun Race	March 17	St. Patrick's Day Race
Jan. 9	Baby Boomers' Clinic	March 24	College Day
Jan. 14	Martin Luther King, Jr. Race	March 24	Fun Race
Jan. 17	United Way Day	March 25	Local's Day
Jan. 20	Camp Robbers	March 28	Local's Day
Jan. 21	Ladies' Day	March 31	College Day
Jan. 21	College Day	March 31	Super G Race
Jan. 21	Fun Race	April 1	Local's Day
Jan. 24	Local's Day	April 1	Easter Egg Hunt
Jan. 27	Camp Robbers	April 1	Easter Bunny Visits
Jan. 27	Intro to Off Piste Tour	April 1	Closing Day
Jan. 28	Local's Day		

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WinterFest

RANDI PIERCE

WinterFest weekend is the time to visit Pagosa Springs with all the fun activities going on in addition to the great skiing at Wolf Creek Ski Area. WinterFest 2018 is set for Feb. 3 and 4, perfect for rounding out the Super Bowl weekend or to give the locals a little “umph” from the winter season. A number of activities are slated for the weekend where people can participate or enjoy the festivities through spectating.

A magical part of the weekend is the colorful hot air balloons that grace the winter skies — weather permitting. The snowy white mountains and the crystal blue skies make for a stunning backdrop to the multi-colored balloons. Bring your camera and dress warmly and capture the splendor as the balloons mass ascend on Feb. 3 and 4. Saturday’s mass ascension will take place in the downtown area next to the San Juan River. On Sunday morning, the balloons will ascend from various locations on the west side of town where you may see a balloon take a skip and a hop on the frozen lakes.

On Saturday, the festivities also include the Sledz on Rez Race, hosted by the Young Professionals of Pagosa Springs (YPOPS), where homemade sleds “race” down Reservoir Hill located downtown. Decorated materials such as satellite dishes, wheelbarrows, kayaks or a crate are joined with skis or snowboards for imaginative sled creations. The crowd jeers and cheers the sledders wielding their way down the hill.

Another highlight of WinterFest is the Penguin Plunge where hardy participants jump into the frigid San Juan River (approximately 32 degrees) as they raise money for their favorite nonprofit organization. The event takes place on Saturday in front of the Visitor Center where the plungers have to float down the river a bit and then go over “Davey’s Wave” for a full-body experience. Spectators can view the antics from the Riverwalk. Other events are in the works to enhance the weekends festivities.

For the athletically inclined, the Pagosa Nordic Club will also host some WinterFest events. On Saturday, Feb. 3, the BB Gun Biathlon begins at 9 a.m. For participants 10 years and older, this event offers you a cross-country course to fit your skill level. Each skier shoots at targets with BB guns, which are provided. On Sunday, Feb. 4, enjoy the WinterFest Fat Bike Race benefitting the DUST2 (Downtown Urban Single-Track Trails) group. There will be an 8km, 16km or KidK course.

Since WinterFest activities are dependent upon the whims of Mother Nature, the locations of the Nordic events are not yet determined.

Be sure to check The Pagosa Springs SUN, www.PagosaSUN.com, for up-to-date information closer to event time.

WinterFest is an interactive festival perfect for the family. You’ll not want to miss the fun.



Family Fun

Pagosa Art Co-op and Belvedere Arts Studio and Gallery: Get your creativity flowing with clay play

It's no secret that kids love to play with clay.

Educator Marvin Bartel said, "Most toddlers, when given a piece of ordinary soft pottery clay, are instinctively motivated to explore its inviting soft and responsive sensory qualities. They poke it, squeeze it, hit it, pick it up and pound it down, and so on. Each time they act on the clay, the clay adjusts and responds.

"These changes mean very little to us as adults, but for a toddler these changes in the clay are magical. The child is naturally fascinated, motivated and empowered to keep experimenting."

Here in Pagosa Country, Pagosa Art Co-op and Belvedere

Arts Studio and Gallery offer classes that allow adults and kids alike to use their imagination and explore this medium.

Belvedere Arts Studio and Gallery invites you to come in and make your own very special work of art. The studio offers tile making for both kids and adults.

You can experiment with an assortment of techniques including using various designs of artist-made plaster molds to create tiles. Just press clay into the mold and you will get an impressed image when it comes out of the mold.

The studio offers mostly hand building for clay forming techniques but there are two wheels available for private lessons or group demos. You can also learn hump molding

as a forming method to make clay forms such as plates and bowls.

Students also have the opportunity to learn about decorating techniques on clay surfaces.

Local artists teach in the studio bringing you drawing, painting and sculpture classes using a variety of media at various skill levels to serve both beginning and advanced students.

The studio offers semi-private and private lessons for pottery making and painting for children, adults or both.

Watch The Pagosa Springs SUN for class/workshop schedules. The studio is located at 2363 Eagle Drive.

“Soft clay is receptive and responsive to all kinds of emotional expression,” said Bartel. “Clay is so fascinating that some children work for long periods without any adult motivation to maintain their interest. It can be a great way to extend the attention span of some children.”

Pagosa Art Co-op invites you to come and relax and get your hands dirty while you get your creativity flowing.

There are fun clay classes every other Wednesday, at 12:30, 3 and 5 p.m. Jewelers classes and a variety of kids classes are offered on Saturdays from 2-4 p.m.

Go to facebook.com/pagosacoop/ and click on events for details. The Co-op is located at 136 E Pagosa St., No. 6.

“A child that learns at an early age that anything that can be imagined can be created is more likely to be more creative and intelligent than a child that only plays with manufactured toys that have been designed by adults,” said Bartel.



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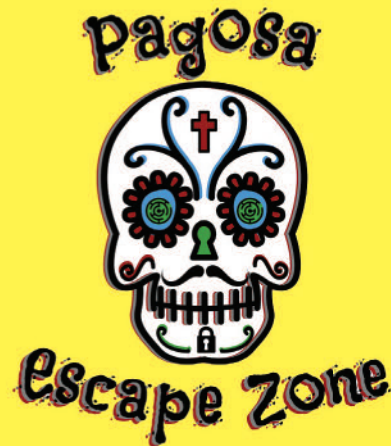
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Magical Moments

Of all the descriptions usually applied to Pagosa Country, “family friendly” ranks among the most treasured by visitors and locals alike.

While winter’s snowy brush paints a picture that pleases the child in all of us, with the town taking on a magical quality as if suddenly populated by gingerbread houses covered with icing, it’s not just the postcard-perfect landscape that gives the area a family-friendly reputation. It’s myriad safe and fun activities available for all ages that have made Pagosa Country a favorite family destination for decades.

With freshly plowed roads forcing us to slow down and appreciate the view, a quick glance reveals numerous slopes for sledding or getting little legs accustomed to skis or a snowboard. A traditional local hot spot for a downhill thrill is Reservoir Hill (downtown, just behind The Healing Waters Resort and Spa on the east side of Hot Springs Boulevard), which has been improved in recent years. Unless a spell of dry weather has brought out brown patches (with over 300 sunny days a year on average, not an unheard-of condition in the Pagosa area), the slopes promise a good time for kids of all ages.

Parents hoping to spend a day on the more substantial slopes at Wolf Creek Ski Area can enroll children ages 5 to 8 in the Wolf Pups ski school and 9 to 12 in the Hot Shots ski school. Prices

and deals on ski school programs can be found at <http://wolf-creekski.com/wolf-creek-beginner-ski-school.php>. Equipment rental is not included in the ski school price.

Those looking to stay slightly lower in elevation can glide across frozen water, with the pond at The River Center Park open for skating from mid-December through mid-February. To check conditions and hear if ponds are open, call the Pagosa Springs Sports Hotline, (970) 264-4151, ext. 301.

In addition, the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion Winter Ice Rink is located at South Pagosa Park on South 8th Street for ice skating, hockey, curling and broomball. Sunday is Family Day.

In late January or early February, young anglers get their chance to prove their stuff with the challenges of ice fishing during the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) annual Winter Perch Tournament. Open to adults as well as children, the contest offers cash prizes in various categories. Contact the PLPOA at (970) 731-5635 for more details.

For those with an aversion to the white stuff and cold air, Pagosa Springs offers several indoor alternatives certain to please those not inclined to slap boards on their feet for the purpose of sliding down a mountain.

Of course, the bookish will want to seek out the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library at 811 San Juan St. (on the southeast corner of

8th Street and U.S. 160). With a wide selection of children's, young adult and adult fiction, as well as nonfiction and reference, the library offers visitor library cards for those wanting to take some books back for curling up with next to a warm fire. While there, free Internet and computer use are available. The library also offers programs for adults and children throughout the winter — check a copy of The Pagosa Springs SUN (www.pagosasun.com), call the library at (970) 264-2208 or visit pagosa.colibraries.org for program times and schedules.

The Ross Aragon Community Center at 451 Hot Springs Blvd. (less than a quarter mile south of The Springs Resort and Spa) offers programs for young and old alike. From bridge to yoga, pick-up basketball games to mahjong, the center is open to the public and many programs and classes are free. Check The PREVIEW section of The Pagosa Springs SUN (www.pagosasun.com) or call (970) 264-4152 for a full calendar of events featured during the week or for more information.

Finally, during that most magical time of year, plenty of holiday events are taking place. Among these are a visit with Santa at the Visitor Center, The Festival of Trees, and numerous holiday music and theater events.

Whether seeking a hot time in the snow or cool activities inside, young folks, from toddler to teenager, will find plenty to do in Pagosa Country this winter season.



KELLY LANER



Something for Everyone

DOUG CHAPIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Whatever your soul seeks — skiing, snowboarding, ice skating, fishing, snowmobiling, soaking in the hot springs, shopping, sleeping and satiating your appetite for food or drink — Pagosa Country offers choices that are sure to please you and everyone in your family or group.

Nestled at an elevation of 7,079 feet alongside the San Juan River, Pagosa Springs is surrounded on the east and north by the craggy spires of the Continental Divide, the Weminuche and South San Juan wilderness areas. “The most snow in Colorado” falls upon the majestic San Juan Mountains and Wolf Creek Ski Area more frequently than any other mountain range in the state. Yet, it is here in Pagosa that uncommonly blue skies prevail more often than not.

Alpine skiing

Wolf Creek Ski Area, considered by many as one of the best-kept secrets in Colorado, offers skiers and snowboarders an abundance of powder and packed powder on sun-drenched slopes. Guests love it because the lift lines are short (with two high-speed quad lifts in operation), the runs are long and the prices are lower than most areas in Colorado. You will also find more snow here than just about anywhere else in the state.

Throughout the ski season, the Wolf Creek Ski Area calendar is jam-packed with myriad activities designed for fun and families and all levels of expertise. The ski school is renowned for its excellence, and there are plenty of fun programs for skiers and boarders of all ages.

Backcountry

Fans of snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, telemark and alpine touring often find themselves just plain giddy when they discover the beautiful, pristine backcountry areas available for their adventures. You can bring your own equipment, book

a tour with an outfitter or rent whatever you need at a number of sporting goods shops in Pagosa.

Beginner and more relaxed cross-country trails surround Pagosa Springs. For those seeking a “wilder” experience, there are cross-country trails in the vicinity of Wolf Creek Pass and in other parts of the San Juan National Forest. With plenty of trails and an abundance of snow, there are innumerable opportunities for the skilled and well-equipped backcountry adventurer.

Cross-country skiing

If alpine skiing isn't your forté, the Pagosa Nordic Club undertakes an ambitious program to bring a variety of cross-country and skate skiing opportunities to the Pagosa Springs area.

In town, the club grooms trails on Reservoir Hill and in Yamaguchi Park. The West Fork trailhead located east of Pagosa Springs offers more opportunities.

If you would like to improve your Nordic skiing or snowshoeing skills, there are clinics held throughout the winter months. For more scheduling information, visit the club's website at PagosaNordic.com.

Ice fishing

If braving the cold to catch perch, trout or bass is your sport, then try ice fishing at one of the spots favored by locals, such as Williams Creek Reservoir or Echo Lake.

Numerous businesses and sporting goods stores sell fishing licenses and can give you the inside scoop on winter fishing. Watch for ice fishing tournaments to be held in the winter, as well.

Ice skating

During the height of winter, when a day on the slopes is (for whatever reason) out of the question, people trade in their boards for a pair of blades and head to the ponds.

Located at the eastern edge of town, just north of U.S. 160 next to



PAGOSA NORDIC CLUB

the San Juan River and adjacent to the River Center shopping complex, ice skating is available to visitors and locals alike on the lower west-end pond at The River Center Park.

The pond is usually groomed for skaters from about mid-December — just before the Christmas break rush — until mid-February (depending on weather conditions, of course).

In addition, the Pagosa Multi-Purpose Pavilion Winter Ice Rink is located at South Pagosa Park on South 8th Street for ice skating, hockey, curling and broomball. Sunday is Family Day.

Mineral hot springs

A long, relaxing soak in Pagosa Springs' world-famous healing waters is the perfect way to end a day of winter fun. Visitors and locals alike laud the waters' curative powers.

Three mineral hot springs facilities are enjoyed by thousands of guests year round.

Holiday festivities

If you happen to be in Pagosa for the holidays, you're in for a treat. Merchants traditionally roll out the red shopping carpets with the annual "Parade of Stores." The event will take place Nov. 30 through Dec. 3 this year. Shopping deals abound around town and there are great prizes from the participating stores. Visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the great deals while taking home a unique item from Pagosa.

If you don't make it to Pagosa over the Parade of Stores weekend, take advantage of the many store "open houses" and Christmas specials that go on throughout the month. Visitors can certainly take advantage of all the shopping festivities!

Santa can be seen all over town during the holiday season. He listens to Christmas wishes while children and parents enjoy the different festivities around town.

While in town, take in a live holiday theater show at the Pagosa

Center for the Arts. Considered one of the best live theaters in Colorado, the Thingamajig Theatre Company will entertain you with holiday performances of "Tuna Christmas." The winter season also brings "Circle Mirror Transformation," "A Colorado Tale," and "Proof" to the stage. Don't miss the opportunity to take in one of the live performances.

The annual Festival of Trees hosted by the Ross Aragon Community Center benefits numerous nonprofits in Pagosa Springs. Even if you don't bid on a tree, attendees can marvel in the beautifully and creatively decorated trees, enjoy the music and delicious food and get caught up in the "bidding wars." It is certainly a festive night while benefitting our community nonprofit agencies. This year's event is set for Dec. 1.

As the winter season progresses, the community welcomes visitors for WinterFest, which is set for Feb. 3 and 4.

WinterFest blows the blahs out of everyone as challenging sports, fun games, contests and antics are held all over town. Enjoy the Anything Goes Downhill Sled Race as homemade sleds "race" down Reservoir Hill. The Penguin Plunge brings the hardiest or craziest plungers out to take a swim in the frigid San Juan River — all to raise money for their favorite charity. The Nordic Club puts on a course challenge for the novice or more experienced cross-country skier. It is a family-fun weekend where you can participate or spectate.

Nestled in the heart of the San Juans, Pagosa Springs is a winter wonderland sure to fulfill all your snow-filled dreams. Whether enjoying a family or holiday outing, a romantic getaway, a weekend to clear out the cobwebs or a quick shopping trip, come experience the panoply of never-ending winter activities and holiday specials. Savor the atmosphere of a cozy coffee shop or scrumptious fare at one of the local eateries. There's nothing like our cozy mountain town during the holiday season.



Downtown Historic Walking Tour

1. 402 Pagosa Street Goodman's Department Store

Following the departure of soldiers from Fort Lewis in 1880, pioneer David Lowenstein opened a clothing store at this location, conducting some of his business with Jicarilla Apache Indians. Through marriage, the Goodman family became associated with the business and eventually remodeled the structure in 1929 by completely enclosing the existing structure and then removing the old store from the inside without closing for a day. In 2000, Goodman's Department Store celebrated its 100th year in the building, continuing its legacy as the longest operating department store in Pagosa Springs.

2. 418 & 422 Pagosa Street Metropolitan Hotel & Liberty Theatre

Pagosa Lumber Company founder A.T. Sullenberger purchased the two-story brick building at this location in 1918, which was previously occupied by Archuleta Mercantile and built by J.M. Archuleta Jr. in the early 1900s. After a fire destroyed the structure in 1919, Sullenberger constructed the Metropolitan Hotel, which featured modern rooms, hot baths for guests and a motion picture theatre.

3. 426 Pagosa Street Sparks Hardware

Constructed in 1919, this structure was originally occupied by Sparks Hardware. Archuleta Motors opened a garage in the building several decades later. After fire damaged the building in 1943, Ben Lynch Sr. moved Jackisch Drug to this location, where it was operated by the Lynch family until 2004.

4. 452 Pagosa Street The Hersch Building

Built by Alice Phillips in 1898 and owned by the Hatcher Brothers from 1905 to 1921, this build-

ing was purchased in 1921 and became Hersch Mercantile. The building operated as Hersch Mercantile until the 1970s and has held numerous social and business functions, as well as the law offices of former Colorado Attorney General Alonzo Hubbard.

5. 456 Pagosa Street La Cantina

Clock Dry Goods Company operated at this location beginning in 1903. The building was briefly known as the Colorado Tavern from 1937 to 1941. The building was purchased in 1941 and renamed La Cantina by the L.M. Archuleta family. The Archuleta family operated La Cantina into the late 1990s until the building was purchased; renovations followed shortly thereafter, in 2001.

6. 468 Pagosa Street Hatcher Hardware

Beginning in 1905, Hatcher Hardware operated at this location for several decades, often sharing ownership of the building with Citizens Bank. In 1943, a fire almost completely destroyed the building. The existing building was constructed following the fire. At the rear of the property is the town's second geothermal well, which was drilled in 1920. The wellhead has the ability to pump approximately 675 gallons per minute and was previously used to heat the building.

7. 474 Pagosa Street Citizens Bank

Citizens Bank operated at this corner location for more than 70 years. Fred Catchpole opened the bank following the closure of First National Bank in 1908. The original building, constructed in 1910, was a two-story structure. The structure was remodeled into a one-story building after a fire damaged the second floor in 1943. Catchpole served as county commissioner and county treasurer and was also influential in the

construction of the Wolf Creek Pass road. The original bank vault and Wells Fargo safe still remain inside.

8. 449 San Juan Street Archuleta County Courthouse

In 1927, Jay Catchpole approached the Archuleta County Commission and suggested the county purchase the old First National Bank building, along with the adjoining lot to construct a courthouse. The property was purchased for \$5,000 and in 1929, the county moved into its new offices. This building has operated as the Archuleta County Courthouse since 1929 and utilizes a geothermal well behind the building. The original bank vault still exists within the courthouse.

9. 480 San Juan Street Moorehead Garage

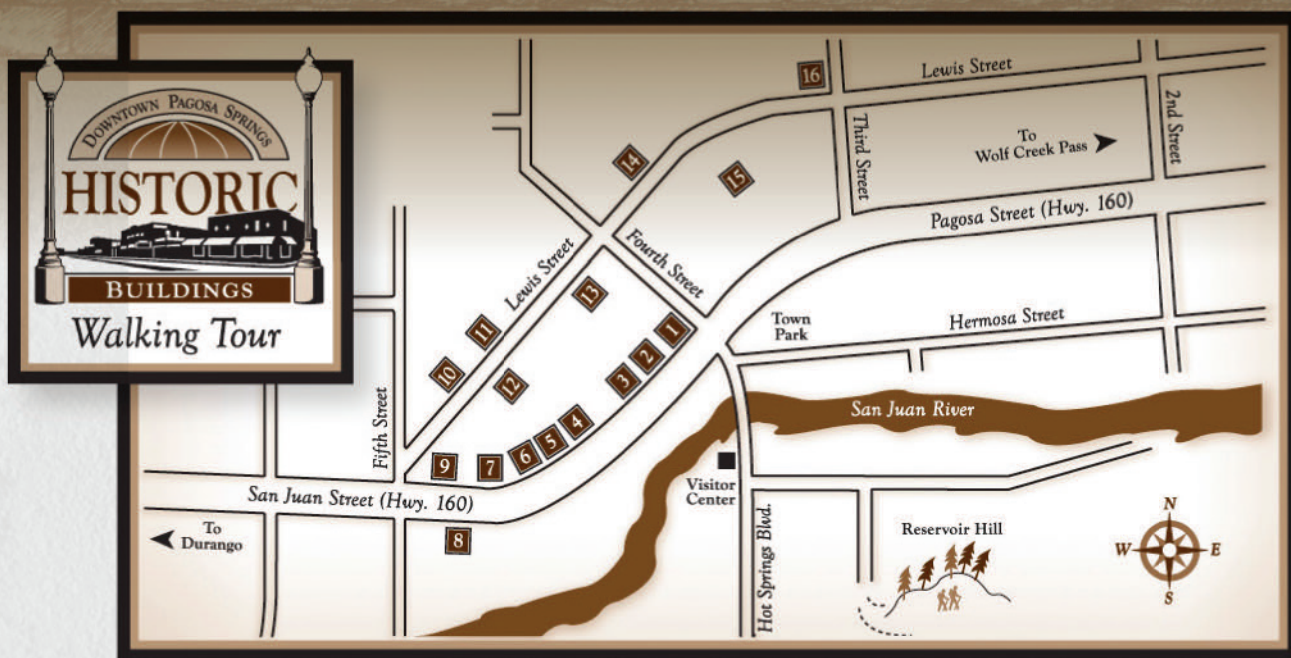
This building originally functioned as a service station and auto garage and was constructed sometime between 1935 and 1937. A fire in 1943 destroyed a large portion of the structure. Numerous renovations have been completed since the fire, including significant restoration in 2005.

10. 468 Lewis Street San Juan Supply

Ralph Morgan constructed this building in 1918 and opened the Electric Garage. The property was purchased by C.O. Dunagan in 1925 and later sold to the Schoonover family. In the 1930s, Paul and Virginia Decker became partners with the Schoonover family and operated San Juan Supply into the mid 1980s. The building has served a variety of commercial enterprises since the closure of San Juan Supply.

11. 444 Lewis Street Sparks Residence

This ornamental concrete block building was constructed by Ethel Sparks in 1910. The home



ILLUSTRATIONS AND TOUR ©2007 TOWN OF PAGOSA SPRINGS

was purchased by Bryce and Julia Patterson in 1912. The Pattersons moved to town in 1904 and operated the Arlington Hotel and Bath House, which was across the street from the residence, until 1936.

**12. 451 Lewis Street
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Catholic Church**

This building was constructed in 1948 to accommodate an increased congregation at the existing Saint Edwards Catholic Church. The church was dedicated as the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on May 22, 1949. The original stained glass windows were imported from Spain. Saint Edwards Catholic Church was destroyed by fire in the 1950s.

**13. 409 Lewis Street
Ray's Hair Care**

Located where the old Fort Lewis military

paymaster's office may have stood, this building was constructed in 1902 by either Joseph Clarke or William Kester. The building has housed a number of businesses throughout the years, with Ray's Hair Care operating at this location since 1976.

**14. 380 Lewis Street
County Jail & Medical Office**

County records show the jail may have been located on this property prior to 1936. The existing residence was built in the mid-1930s for a local medical doctor. The residence's architecture exemplifies the use of local stone materials.

**15. 338 Pagosa Street
Pagosa Springs Intermediate School**

Pagosa Springs' school was completely destroyed by fire in 1924. For a year, students attended school in churches, businesses and the Odd Fellows Lodge until this building, the new

school, was finished in 1925. The building was constructed to be totally fireproof, with ramps instead of stairs, which was thought to be safer. The school originally housed all grade levels; however, today the school accommodates only fifth- and sixth-grade students.

**16. 302 Lewis Street
Catchpole Residence**

This residence was constructed as a Queen Anne-style home by Fred and Mabel Catchpole in 1910. From 1996 to 2002, the home experienced extensive remodeling, including siding, shingles, doors, windows and roof. The Catchpoles were active community members, with Fred serving terms as county commissioner and county treasurer, and Mabel serving terms on the school board and Methodist Church board. The residence is no longer owned by the Catchpole family.



RANDI PIERCE

Getting Here

Stevens Field Airport

Archuleta County's Stevens Field, located just 3 miles west of downtown Pagosa Springs, is one of the most scenic airports around.

In addition to beauty, the airport boasts a fully lit asphalt runway that is 100 feet wide and 8,100 feet long. That runway has aircraft weight capacities of 70,000 pounds for dual-wheel gear and 59,000 pounds for single-wheel gear. Flight safety at the high-altitude, general aviation airport is reinforced with a Precision Approach Path Indicator system.

The airport has seen a great deal of improvement over the last decade. In 2006, workers widened and resurfaced Runway 10/19 and built a new fixed-base operations building at midfield to provide fuel and services to local and visiting aircraft. In 2008, a new 3,000-foot parallel taxiway was constructed. In 2013, Archuleta County acquired additional snow removal equipment solely to be used at the airport. Alongside the other improvements, new hangars have appeared, an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) has been installed, and the airport identifier became KPSO.

In keeping with its commitment to Archuleta County and Stevens Field, the Federal Aviation Administration also completed and published a GPS instrument approach for pilot use during nighttime and low-visibility landings.

In 2015, nearly \$6 million was spent to

extend the parallel taxiway and complete other associated projects, further increasing the efficiency of aircraft movement and safety.

Those improvements have not only increased safety, but have also helped solidify the airport's status as an economic driver for the community. According to a recent Economic Impact Study completed by the airport's advisory committee, for every dollar Archuleta County invests in the airport, the county receives a return of \$10.86.

The airport facility also boasts a private, on-site maintenance shop in one of the hangars.

For more information on the airport, visit www.archuletacounty.org or www.stevensfield.com. For specific airport management questions or concerns, call the airport manager at (970) 731-3060.

The AWOS system is available on frequency 127.175, or by phone at (970) 731-0365.

And once you've landed, Pagosa has car rental agencies and transportation companies to help you get around.

Fixed Base Operator

For aviation services or to visit Avjet Corporation, the fixed-base operator, travel 3 miles west of town, then approximately 1 mile northwest on Piedra Road (CR 600). Turn right (northeast) on Cloman Boulevard and proceed to 61 Aviation Court.

The FBO offers a number of amenities,

including restrooms, telephone, shower facilities, a flight planning room, pilot snooze room, Internet, vending machines, concierge and catering services, coffee, a lounge area, heated hangar and more. Avjet also provides fuel, Avgas and Jet-A rated fuel.

For more information about these and other airport services, call Avjet at (970) 731-2127.

Durango-La Plata Airport

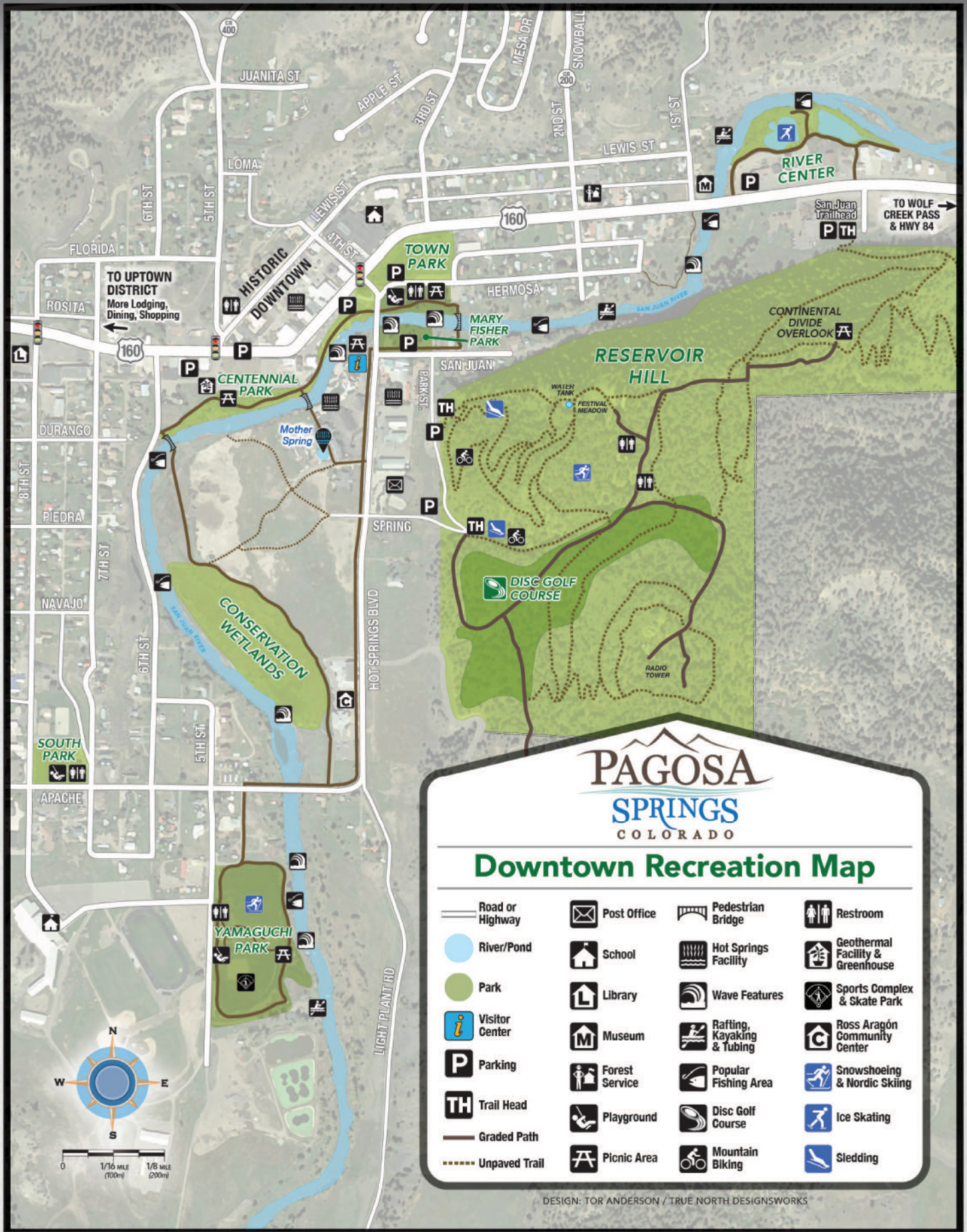
The Durango-La Plata County Airport offers daily service with American Airlines and United Airlines. The airport offers a full range of services within the terminal to make your visit comfortable. The airport has short- and long-term parking, full rental car services and shuttle/taxis.

The airport is located 60 miles from Pagosa Springs at the intersection of Airport Road and County Road 309A, approximately 1 mile from County Road 309.

More information about flights and ancillary services is at www.flydurango.com.

Mileage from Pagosa

Durango, Colo.	61 miles
Cortez, Colo.	104 miles
Denver, Colo.	277 miles
Colorado Springs, Colo.	242 miles
Farmington, N.M.	101 miles
Santa Fe, N.M.	160 miles
Albuquerque, N.M.	212 miles
Phoenix, Ariz.	514 miles
Oklahoma City, Okla.	688 miles
Dallas, Texas.	790 miles



PAGOSA
SPRINGS
 COLORADO

Downtown Recreation Map

- | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Road or Highway | Post Office | Pedestrian Bridge | Restroom |
| River/Pond | School | Hot Springs Facility | Geothermal Facility & Greenhouse |
| Park | Library | Wave Features | Sports Complex & Skate Park |
| Visitor Center | Museum | Rafting, Kayaking & Tubing | Ross Aragón Community Center |
| Parking | Forest Service | Popular Fishing Area | Snowshoeing & Nordic Skiing |
| Trail Head | Playground | Disc Golf Course | Ice Skating |
| Graded Path | Picnic Area | Mountain Biking | Sledding |
| Unpaved Trail | | | |

DESIGN: TOR ANDERSON / TRUE NORTH DESIGNWORKS

Rest & Relaxation



MICHAEL PIERCE PHOTOGRAPHY

Each of Pagosa's three bathing facilities offers its own unique take on the traditional soaking experience, and the savvy soaker does well to switch things up, experiencing how differently each place relaxes the spirit and heals the body.

Located on the main street of Pagosa Springs at 432 Pagosa St., the Overlook Hot Springs Spa offers soaking and massage services housed within old-world Victorian opulence.

Offering indoor and outdoor pools, including a private tub room, massage and a steam room, the Overlook provides bathers an opportunity to soak while escaping the elements, or to take in the sights while soaking.

Those sights are best soaked in from the pools located on the building's roof, which give the Overlook its name and notoriety. With a panoramic view of historic downtown and beyond, the pools are a favorite with locals and visitors alike. There's also a sauna and geothermal tub.

The Overlook opened its courtyard in summer 2016. The courtyard features six individual tubs, as well as an eight-person Jacuzzi. Inside, there are four open pools and a private pool room that can be rented by the hour by bathers who prefer to soak in a more intimate setting. Reservations are required for booking the private pool and the massage rooms.

Additionally, the Overlook features massage rooms, changing rooms with regular shower stalls, as well as steam showers. Snacks and drinks (including beer, wine and champagne) are available for purchase to completely sate the appetites of soakers who prefer to ease aching muscles with a tasty beverage and absent a grumbling tummy.

Just around the corner on the east side of Hot Springs Boulevard

is the Healing Waters Resort and Spa, offering a large outdoor swimming pool, both indoor and outdoor tubs, 17 living units and pull-through RV spaces with full hookups. The ambiance here is down home, Old West and friendly. Through long years of service, the hosts have learned to satisfy the needs of the most discriminating guest.

Indoor tubs and steam rooms are segregated at the Healing Waters Resort and Spa as they offer clothing-optional bathing.

Across the street, The Springs Resort offers more than 79 living units and 23 tubs (two of which are jetted) to accommodate 300 visitors at a time. A 6,000-square-foot bathhouse, featuring Mediterranean-style architecture, provides complete locker room and changing room facilities.

Small, party-size pools with temperatures ranging from 90 to 114 degrees extend from the bathhouse down to the edge of the San Juan River. Bathers enjoy a satisfying aura of adventure as they move from pool to pool, seeking the temperature of choice with the sound of the river in the background. There is an L-shaped swimming pool of geothermal water with temperature in the high 80s to low 90s. Other amenities include a full-service spa and salon as well as a gazebo that offers snacks and beverages.

For relaxation purposes, five pools are designated as "adults only." However, there are 18 soaking pools and a fresh-water Jacuzzi for the entire family to enjoy. Swim attire is mandatory in all pools.

While the Great Pagosa's water remains at a natural temperature of 144 degrees and is far too hot for a relaxing soak, all three facilities cool the water for bathing and recreational purposes.

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Come on in, the water's fine!

For centuries, the waters in Pagosa Springs have drawn visitors who wish to take advantage of the healing qualities of the world's deepest natural hot spring.

Prior to the arrival of Hispanic and Anglo settlers, members of various tribes of Native Americans came to heal and refresh themselves in the local waters. Historians report that Native Americans preferred to coat themselves with mud mixed with the mineral water, rather than soaking directly in the pools. The rationale was simple: at 144 degrees Fahrenheit, undiluted spring water is far too hot for a pleasurable soak.

Although early Hispanic and Anglo settlers took advantage of the hot springs from time to time, the healing properties of the waters remained largely a local secret. Eventually, however, word was passed regarding the "magical properties" of The Great Pagosa Hot Spring and travelers sought out the medicinal qualities of the water. Since then, visitors from all over the world come to seek out a healing experience that had once been known only to the local inhabitants.

Today, few of life's pleasures are more rewarding than surrendering your body to hot, soothing waters after a day on the slopes, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing the backcountry, skating the River Center Park pond or sledding the numerous hills in Pagosa Country.

Locals call this luxury "ski and soak," a combination guaranteed to ease the aches and pains of even the most tired muscles.

Experience the 'magic'

Time and again, visitors here comment on the friendliness and laid-back demeanor of our residents. More than that, many visitors ask why so many of our locals seem so healthy, vibrant and appear much younger than their age — an observation that inevitably leads to the question, "So, what's in the water?"

Local spin has it that the Ute term, "Pagosa," describes the mystical qualities of the legendary Great Pagosa Hot Spring, repeating the apocryphal tale that the phrase translates as "Healing Waters."

Alas, the truth might be much more hackneyed, but no less descriptive: local historian John Motter writes that, "According to the dictionary prepared under the auspices of and with the help of Southern Utes in Ignacio, Pagosa comes from two Ute words meaning "stinking water."

Certainly, there is an unmistakable aroma accompanying the springs, but are they really also healing waters? You can judge for yourself, but abundant testimonials say, "yes."

And while Native Americans visited the geothermally heated waters, certain the Great Spirit had endowed the bubbling cauldron with superhuman virtues, reverence for the "Healing Waters" has not abated with passage of time. In recent years, The Great Pagosa Hot Spring has attracted more visitors than ever before. And why not? — it is a unique experience, providing comfort and relaxation unmatched anywhere.

Making it all possible is The Great Pagosa Hot Spring, that bubbling fountain of natural mineral water and the world's largest hot spring.

How can we make the claim of "the world's deepest hot spring?" Because the Guinness Book of World Records says so! A judge from the New York office of the Guinness Book of World Records visited Pagosa Springs to verify measurements on The Great Pagosa Hot Spring made by Durango-based hydrologist John Casey.

How deep is it? We wish we could say. So far, attempts to plumb the depths of the spring have defied the best efforts to find out. When Casey dropped a 1,002-foot long plumb line into the "mother spring," it didn't hit the bottom; instead, the plumb line ran out. So now, the official measurement is 1,002 ft. and, according to the Guinness Book of World Records, that's the deepest hot spring in the world.

Prior to that, however, the depth of the spring had been measured using a 2,500-foot plumb line. The same thing happened: before the plumb line reached the bottom of the spring, the line ran out.

So, the mystery remains unsolved. Deeper still, however, is the mystery of our water's ability to soothe, heal and relax even the most harried soul. Visit the site of the spring and experience it for yourself. Take the opportunity to avail yourself of Pagosa's healing waters, its mystery, its spirit-rejuvenating properties and, yes ... its magic.



Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race:

A furry, paw-some time

By Marshall Dunham

The annual Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race is guaranteed fun for the whole family.

Part of the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club race series, the Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race will be held Jan. 20 and 21, and features both competitive and non-competitive events, with events including regular sled racing along with skijor races.

Skijoring with a dog is a sport in which a dog assists a cross-country skier by pulling them. Typically, one to three dogs are used. The cross-country skier provides power with skis and poles, and the dog adds additional power by running and pulling.

"This'll be the eighth year," said Jennifer Martin, Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race co-founder. "We started in 2011."



Play Outside



RANDI PIERCE



RANDI PIERCE

She said the event started when the Pagosa Springs Nordic Club was created, and members were brainstorming different events that could be created.

The Nordic Club also hosts events such as BB gun biathlons, cross-country skiing clinics and fat bike races.

Both the Rocky Mountain Sled Dog Club and the Nordic Club are nonprofit organizations.

“They go by the amounts of dog you have. We have a four-dog, four-mile race and a six-dog, six-mile race,” Martin said. “With skijoring, it’s four miles if you have one dog and six miles if you have two dogs.”

Martin said that entry fees are collected, and once expenses have been taken out, the fees are then converted to prize money and returned to the victors. You know, the participants who place fur-st.

Additionally, participants are gifted items as well, such as dog food and treats.

While the majority of the mushing participants hail from Colorado, Martin said that mushers travel from Arizona, Utah and Wyoming, and that every year, the event sees more and more participants, with last year’s event bringing in more than 100 dogs.

“It’s definitely a lifestyle. I don’t know if I’d call it a hobby,” laughed Martin. “If you have 12 dogs then that’s your life.”

She explained that mushers who participate in this race event are awarded points, and those who are awarded enough points get invited to participate in larger, more serious competitions.

The audience continues to grow each year as well, with Martin counting over 200 spectators during last year’s event weekend.

Martin estimated that at least 20 individuals volunteer to help at the event each year, with some volunteering as course monitors (rufferees), timers and photographers.

She said that there’s a veterinarian that volunteers their time in case a dog suffers an injury.

She said that in the past, the event has used courses designed on U.S. Forest Service roads, which include an “out and back” format.

However, since the event started being held at the Toner Ranch, the space of the area allows for the designs of more detailed and curvy racetracks.

Martin said the event also has sportsman’s classes for any person to give the sport a try, saying that a Jack Russell Terrier had even ran at one point.

“All dogs love to run in the snow,” Martin said.

Martin explained that she encourages spectators to arrive to the event at 8 a.m., as this is when the excitement starts to build.

The dogs are all harnessed, and as they begin to anticipate the start of the event, they proceed to go paws-ively mutts.

“I cry every time. The energy is just so cool, and seeing the dogs, they’re born to do that, they’re born to run,” said Martin. “They just get so excited, and I think that excitement rubs off on everyone. It’s a really cool bond to have with your dog. They’re listening to you, and their ears are turned backwards and they’re really in tune with you, it’s super cool.”

The Pagosa Paw Sled Dog Race will take place at the Toner Ranch in Pagosa Springs. The ranch is located 15.5 miles north on Piedra Road from U.S. 160. After crossing the Piedra River Bridge, turn right on Taylor Lane. Go 1.7 miles to the race site on the left. There will be a corral and cattle chutes on the right.

The 17 miles is up a dirt road, so allow a good hour from town. Once you reach the race location, Taylor Lane loops back into Piedra Road, allowing for easy access for larger vehicles and trailers.

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Wolf Creek Ski Area

ROSANNE PITCHER

Wolf Creek Ski Area has several new things in store for the 2017-2018 ski season. One of the largest improvements is a point-of-sale system in the ticket office. In addition to a new ticketing system, the Lynx Lift, a covered conveyor and interpretive center will open this season.

The ski area will also be going solar this winter. Wolf Creek is an environmentally friendly area and has always been a leader in maintaining sustainable business practices. Wolf Creek currently purchases 100 percent renewable wind energy year-round, mountain-wide.

The point-of-sale system will allow guests the luxury of arranging and paying for their lessons from the comfort of their home prior to their trip. Private lessons will still need to be arranged through the ticket office or booked over the phone due to the many details. Once pass holders have their season pass card, they will go directly to lifts and skip the ticket office.

The Lynx Lift is a 290-foot covered conveyor and is the ninth lift to Wolf Creek's lift system. The lift is located behind the Sports Center and out the back doors of the Rental Shop, will take guests to the interpretive center where instructors greet skiers enrolled in lessons. Students will be introduced to the sport, watch safety videos and begin their lesson. The Lynx Lift does not only service beginner terrain but also helps intermediate and advanced skiers access the Elma and Alberta lifts. The Alberta and Tranquility Parking Lots are accessible via the Lynx Lift by transporting guests up to Okey Dokey and then onto a trail that leads to shuttle services for parking.

Other off-season improvements made this summer include

increasing Wolf Creek's snow making capacity, heavy equipment additions to the snow removal department and a new snowcat for grooming operations. Wolf Creek purchased two, new, high-efficiency fan guns, increasing snowmaking capacity.

Wolf Creek Ski Area is known for having an exceptional variety of terrain, abundant snowfall and plenty of powder days. Wolf Creek has gradual sloping, wide green runs for beginners to excellent expert terrain that will give advanced skiers and boarders an in-bounds backcountry experience. Finding an intermediate groomer to cruise down to start your day isn't hard to do and tree skiing is endless.

Wolf Creek is unique in that the location of the ski area is in the beautiful Southern San Juan Mountains, eliminating the frustration of driving on a heavily trafficked corridor to ski. The ski area has the advantage of being located on U.S. 160 near the summit of Wolf Creek Pass, which is a beautiful and well-maintained mountain pass with three and four lanes of highway.

The low-density skiing experience at Wolf Creek Ski Area makes Wolf Creek a destination hot spot for powder hounds, families and new skiers alike. Wolf Creek stands out from other ski areas in Colorado not only for being family owned and operated, but for also having affordable lift tickets and lesson options. Adding to Wolf Creek's uniqueness is the phenomenal homemade food found in all eateries at Wolf Creek and convenient amenities that are at no cost, like paved parking and shuttle services.

Additional information can be found on www.WolfCreekSki.com or by calling (970) 264-5639.

Soar into the 2017-2018 ski season!

Wolf Creek Ski Area



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Webpage is updated with
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100-Mile Trail Challenge

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This advertisement is made possible through a grant from the Pagosa Springs Tourism Board.



MICHAEL PIERCE PHOTOGRAPHY

Snowmobiling

For some, making snow angels just doesn't cut it for winter fun. Nor does a downhill sled taken to any of the area's popular sledding destinations. Or soaking in the hot springs as the steam rises around you, immersing you in warmth.

Some need a little more adventure and adrenaline.

But not to worry, if you want to rev it up, snowmobiling might be the activity for you.

Pagosa Country offers plenty of opportunities for snowmobile adventures and travel. Thanks to the San Juan National Forest Pagosa Ranger District, among others, there is a wide selection of designated snowmobile routes. The routes follow unplowed forest roads and trails, many of which are groomed by a local volunteer group, the Wolf Creek Trailblazers Club, under authorization of the Forest Service.

Grooming frequencies vary due to conditions and resources, and most routes are only minimally marked, making route-finding skills, maps, avalanche awareness and good pre-trip planning essential for a safe expedition into the Pagosa backcountry during the winter months.

Trail descriptions have been developed to assist visitors in locating snowmobile opportunities in the Pagosa area. Mileages are approximate and do not represent round-trip distances from trailheads. Please be familiar with the rules, regulations and tips for safe winter travel.

Rules and regulations

- Cross-country winter travel is generally permitted in the Pagosa Ranger District. However, there are areas in which snowmobiles are prohibited or restricted to designated routes.
- Snowmobiles are prohibited in the Weminuche Wilderness, the South San Juan Wilderness and the Piedra Area.
- Please refer to the San Juan National Forest Visitor Map and



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reference the area table for information about the location of areas where travel is restricted to designated routes.

- Each over-the-snow vehicle that is operated on public land in Colorado must be registered with Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Out-of-state residents who bring snowmobiles into Colorado must purchase a Colorado nonresident OHV permit. For more information, contact Colorado Parks and Wildlife at (303) 791-1920 or www.cpw.state.co.us.

- Per Colorado law, it is unlawful to operate a snowmobile on some plowed public roads, including plowed roads located on national forest lands. It is also unlawful to pursue, drive at or otherwise intentionally disturb or harass any wildlife. For more information regarding state law, go to cpw.state.co.us/thingstodo/Pages/SnowmobileLawRegs.aspx.

Pre-plan and prepare

The Forest Service does not manage or post signs for all hazards. That said, always be prepared for and aware of:

- Changing weather conditions.
- The potential for altitude sickness and hypothermia.
- The need to find your own way or turn back if conditions become too difficult for

your skills, ability or equipment.

Avalanche danger

- Carry essential equipment and know how to use it.
- Be familiar with accepted winter travel procedures and rescue techniques.
- Daily avalanche forecasts can be obtained online at <http://avalanche.state.co.us> or (970) 247-8187.
- More educational information, including a listing of available training, can be obtained at www.avalanche.org.

Route finding

Before setting out on untracked snow, remember that some trails are minimally maintained or unmarked. Route-finding skills are necessary. Always carry maps, such as the San Juan National Forest Map and current topographic maps. Avoid trespassing on private property adjacent to, or surrounded by, national forest lands.

On ungroomed trails, users will be relying upon their own route-finding skills, maps and, perhaps, the knowledge and skills of those who traveled before them.

Parking

Parking areas may not be plowed; therefore, parking space is often limited and may not be available after snowstorms when snow removal is in progress. Please

park considerably without blocking gates or other vehicles.

Grooming conditions

There is not a set schedule for grooming and some trails may not be groomed for an entire season. For information about grooming conditions or to learn how you can help, go to www.coloradosledcity.com and click on "Trail reports/Maps." When the map loads, select Pagosa Springs, then scroll down through the Groomer Reports.

Search and rescue

In an emergency, call 911. The local sheriff's office is the lead agency for search and rescue.

Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue Cards cover search and rescue mission costs, support Colorado search and rescue volunteers and contribute to well-trained and equipped search and rescue teams. Cards are available at outlets that sell hunting and fishing licenses. Anyone with a current hunting/fishing license, or boat, snowmobile or ATV registration is already covered by the fund.

Pagosa Ranger District Office

For maps and additional information, the Pagosa Ranger District Office is located at 180 Pagosa St. in Pagosa Springs. Call (970) 264-2268 or go to www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan.



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Cross-Country Skiing



BETH TOLLEFSEN

Courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service and the Pagosa Nordic Club

The opportunities for snowshoeing, classic cross-country skiing and skate skiing in Pagosa Country are plentiful, no matter your level of experience. Some trails/areas cater to those attempting the sports for the first time, while others will challenge even the most experienced winter enthusiasts. The routes described below are a mix of groomed trails and unplowed, ungroomed Forest Service roads closed to most vehicles except snowmobiles.

The U.S. Forest Service, Wolf Creek Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, Wolf Creek Ski Area and the Pagosa Nordic Club all work in conjunction with each other to groom trails for the public to use for skate skiing, classic cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling.

The forest service roads listed below are enjoyed and shared by people on skis, snowshoes and snowmobiles. Check with the Pagosa Ranger District Office in downtown Pagosa Springs or go to PagosaNordic.com to learn more about groomed trail opportunities.

Parking

Parking may present a problem and at times may prevent the use of a particular route. Park considerately, taking no more space than needed to avoid blocking other vehicles or impeding access to trails, and without impeding access for emergency vehicles. Leave room for vehicles and trailers to turn around. Colorado Department of Transportation crews clear parking areas along state highways adjacent to trail access, but their first priority is to clear the road. Avoid parking along highway travel lanes.

Trail etiquette

Cross-country skiers might find all manner of winter recreation enthusiasts on trails in the Pagosa Springs area. Please don't ride fat bikes, walk or snowshoe on groomed trails. Yield the right of way to downhill traffic. Use caution when approaching or overtaking another user. Do not interfere with or harass other users. Do not disturb wildlife. Only friendly dogs under voice control are permitted and all dog defecation should be removed from the ski trail. In addition, pack out everything you pack in.

Safety

Before venturing out onto unpacked snow, take the time to learn emergency procedures and backcountry travel and winter camping skills. Weather and

snow conditions can change rapidly in Colorado's mountains. Plan ahead and know what conditions to expect. Your trip will be much more enjoyable if you are physically and mentally prepared for whatever may arise. Be prepared for medical emergencies and leave a detailed description of your trip plans with a responsible person each time you go. Make sure the person you leave your plan with knows to contact the sheriff's office if you fail to return. In addition, consider purchasing a Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue (CORSAR) card to ensure that the county can recover all of your search-and-rescue costs. Cards cost \$3 for one year or \$12 for five years and are available at hunting and fishing license vendors.

Weather

When planning any backcountry trek, check current and forecasted weather conditions before you leave home and continue to monitor the weather throughout your trip. Dramatic weather changes can occur in minutes throughout Pagosa Country, especially in the mountains. Be informed about avalanche terrain and conditions. The Colorado Avalanche Information Center provides current information on weather and avalanche conditions at <http://avalanche.state.co.us>.

Stay within limits

Recognize and stay within your limits. Carry the appropriate gear for your trip, including extra clothing, a space blanket, sunscreen, sunglasses or goggles, matches or lighter, extra food and water. If traveling with a dog, carry plastic bags for cleaning up after your pooch. Carry a compass and topographical maps and know how to use them. For backcountry trips, avalanche safety skills and equipment, including a snow shovel, avalanche beacon and probe are essential. In addition, be prepared to repair equipment and carry a simple field repair kit that includes supplies for common breakdowns.

Visit www.PagosaNordic.com or the Pagosa Ranger District office at 2nd Street and U.S. 160 in downtown Pagosa Springs for up-to-date trail statuses and conditions.

Recommended equipment

As a general rule, dress in layers so you can add and subtract layers as you become hot or cold. Remember, it can be quite cold in the morning, warm up considerably during the day, and get cold as soon as the sun moves behind the hills or a cloud. Avoid cotton cloth-

ing, especially next to the skin. You can be sure that you will get wet from sweat, from falling down, or from snow falling off trees. You may get cold if you stop for any amount of time. The weather may change dramatically if a front is coming in or if it starts snowing. In a group, some items can be shared.

Equipment and clothing

Skis, boots, poles — no-wax skis, maxiglide or other for sticking; waxable skis — waxes, cork, scraper and snow thermometer; sunglasses or glacier glasses; sunscreen; day pack or fanny pack; Swiss army knife; compass; maps; quart-size canteen or wide-mouth bottle filled with water; long underwear (polypropylene or other synthetic); intermediate layer — sweater (wool or synthetic) or shirt (wool or synthetic); windbreaker layer (nylon, 60/40 cloth, avoid garments that are heavily treated with waterproofing); pants or knickers (wool or synthetic, blue jeans are not recommended); socks (wool or synthetic); liner socks; hat (wool or synthetic) — you must be able to cover your ears; high-energy snacks and lunch, if appropriate; toilet paper and plastic bag for used paper; first aid kit; flashlight; vest (down or synthetic) or warmer jacket (down or synthetic); poncho and/or space blanket; extra hats, extra gloves; balaclava or ski mask; neck gaiter; ear band (knit-wool or synthetic); thin polypropylene or other synthetic gloves to operate equipment such as cameras; matches in a waterproof container; candle; whistle; duct tape; ski tip.

Be prepared for avalanche danger

Carry an avalanche shovel, beacon and probe for each person. Always test equipment and make sure all beacons are compatible and have adequate battery power.

Always check conditions with an avalanche forecasting group before going out. Daily avalanche forecasts can be obtained online at www.avalanche.state.co.us or by calling (970) 247-8187. More educational information, including a listing of available training can be obtained at: www.avalanche.org and www.avalanche.state.co.us (Colorado Avalanche Information Center).

Maps and trail information are available from the U.S. Forest Service Pagosa Ranger District, 180 Pagosa St. or call (970) 264-2268.

For grooming reports, trail maps and events information, visit PagosaNordic.com.

Groomed Nordic Skiing Trails

Groomed Nordic ski trails are for classic cross-country skiing and skate skiing only. Other users should avoid groomed surface.

Please visit PagosaNordic.com for full trail details.

Alberta Lake Loop

A beautiful 10km loop that starts at the end of the Alberta parking lot of Wolf Creek Ski Area and travels through the forest. Wolf Creek Ski Area has groomed this cross-country ski trail for many years with no use fees required.

Ability levels:

- Beginner 30 percent, intermediate 40 percent, advanced 30 percent

Special features:

- The Wolf Creek Ski Area grooms up to 10km for skate skiing, classic cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.
- The first km is an intermediate access to the Alberta Meadow Nordic loop. Beginners should be aware of the slope and that speed control is needed.
- There is no ability level signage.

Getting there: Travel 24 miles east on U.S. 160 to the Wolf Creek Ski Area. The parking attendant can guide you to the far east end of the Alberta parking lot where the Alberta Park cross country ski trail begins.

Fall Creek

(Forest Road 039)

Beginning at about 9,600 feet in elevation, this popular ski route climbs gradually for about six miles. Great early and late-season snow conditions. 5km groomed for cross-country skiing early in the season only, prior

to other trails opening for the season.

Getting there: Travel 19 miles northeast on U.S. 160 to Fall Creek Road. Once cleared, there is a large parking area on the south side of the highway. Avoid parking along highway travel lanes.

West Fork Nordic Trail

With an abundance of flat, groomed and natural terrain, the West Fork area provides fantastic cross-country opportunities for beginners and families. The area offers skiers the chance to ski through stands of giant conifers, as well as scenic views of the valley floor and the headwaters of the San Juan River.

Ability levels:

- Beginner 80 percent, intermediate 10 percent, advanced 10 percent.

Special features:

- The Pagosa Nordic Club grooms up to 15km for skate skiing, with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing.

Getting there: Drive 14 miles east of Pagosa Springs on U.S. 160 — look for the Bruce Spruce Lodge sign on the left side of the road. Turn left onto West Fork Road (Forest Road 648). Drive to the end of the road (.25 miles). Park on the side of the road where it is plowed.

Coyote Hill

Coyote Hill is another great family and beginner area with three levels of loops. The Pagosa Ranger District grooms up to 14km for skate skiing, with set tracks for classic cross-country skiing. The first level — just off

the parking area — offers 3km of beginner, groomed trails. From the main trail, skiers can continue up to the second level for an additional 3km of intermediate terrain. The upper loop offers another 6km of intermediate terrain and 2km of advanced terrain. The upper loops offer immense, stunning views of Pagosa Peak.

Ability levels:

- Beginner 20 percent, intermediate 70 percent, advanced 10 percent.

Special features:

- The trails are groomed exclusively for cross-country skiing. Walkers and snowshoers are prohibited on the groomed trails. Snowmobiles are prohibited on Coyote Hill.

Getting there: Drive 6.3 miles north of U.S. 160 on Piedra Road (County Road 600). The trailhead is on the right, just after the cattle guard. Please park in the pull-off if it is plowed.

Cloman Park

10km groomed by the Pagosa Nordic Club. Located 2 miles north of U.S. 160 to Cloman Boulevard, then two miles to the trailhead (past Airport). Friendly dogs welcome. Snowshoeing allowed off of groomed ski trails please.

Laverty Ranch

10km groomed by the Pagosa Nordic Club. Located 1 mile east of town on U.S. 160. This area is for Nordic skiing only. Other winter uses prohibited and no dogs allowed at this trail. Pagosa Nordic Club membership required for trail use.

Additional trails may be added as conditions permit. Visit pagosanordic.com for trail grooming reports, trail maps and event details. See The Pagosa Springs SUN, www.PagosaSUN.com, for updated additional information on Pagosa Nordic events.

Multi-Use Trails

Nordic Skiing • Snowshoeing • Fat Biking • Snowmobiling • And more!

Fourmile (winter) Trail

Follows Fourmile Road (CR 400, FR 645) from the winter closure point to its end.

Length: 4.6 miles.

Trailhead: Fourmile Road (CR 400) at winter closure.

Grooming: Frequently groomed.

Connections: Plumtaw Trail (FR 634).

Plumtaw Trail

The trail is accessed via the Fourmile (Winter) Trail (FR 645). It follows Plumtaw Road (FR 634) to end at McManus Road (FR 633).

Length: 18.3 miles.

Trailheads: Fourmile Road (CR 400) or

McManus Road (FR 633) at winter closure

points.

Grooming: Frequently groomed.

Connections: The McManus-E. Toner Connector (5.8 miles) crosses the Middle Fork of the Piedra River. The route consists of a groomed trail to E. Toner Road (FR 637), then follows E. Toner Road to Middle Fork Road (FR 636) and continues southwest to a parking area at the junction with Piedra Road (FR 631).

East Fork Road

(Forest Road 667)

An enjoyable route for one or several miles, this route parallels the East Fork of the San Juan River. It is eight miles to the historic Silver Falls Guard Station. Please

stay on the road as it passes through private property. This area sees significant snowmobile use, is groomed occasionally by the Wolf Creek Trail Blazers snowmobile club, and can provide a quality distance ski.

Getting there: Travel 9.5 miles east on U.S. 160, turn southeast on East Fork Road, then continue about 3/4 mile to the parking area at the end of the plowed road.

Turkey Springs Trail

Length: 8.5 mile loop.

Trailhead: Turkey Springs Trailhead on Piedra Road (FR 631).

Grooming: Occasionally groomed.

Connections: Monument Trail (FR 630).

Back-Country Skiing & Snowshoeing

Lobo Overlook

This route climbs generally uphill for 1.5 miles to the Lobo Overlook, the Continental Divide trail (and the microwave tower). Skiers will be rewarded with breathtaking views at the top. Snowmobiles are allowed on the forest service road and provide a packed trail for the ascent.
Getting there: Travel 23.2 miles northeast on U.S. 160. Parking and the road to the overlook are north of the highway just past the Continental Divide.

Nipple Mountain Road

(Forest Road 665)
In addition to traveling Nipple Mountain Road, there are a few other options in this area. The hardy person with a map and backcountry skills may identify lengthy or loop trips.
Getting there: From downtown, go east on U.S. 160 to the junction with U.S. 84. Travel 1/8 mile south on U.S. 84 and turn left on Mill Creek Road (County Road 302), drive approximately 5 miles to trailhead parking before the junction with Nipple

Mountain Road (665).

Blanco River Road

(Forest Road 656)
Blanco River Road is closed at the highway. The route generally parallels the river for 2.5 miles from the highway to Blanco River campground.
Getting there: Travel 11 miles south on U.S. 84 to Blanco River Road. Parking is limited.

Kenney Flats Road

(Forest Road 006)
This road through open, fairly level terrain is good for beginners and provides several possible routes.
Getting there: Travel 14 miles south on U.S. 84 to Kenney Flats Road. Parking is located on the east side of the highway.

Williams Creek Area

Open, fairly flat area that is good for beginners. Enjoy spectacular views of mountains and large, open parks. Unplowed road continues past Williams Creek Reservoir to Poison Park and Williams Creek trails.

Getting there: From downtown, travel two miles west on U.S. 160, turn north on Piedra Road. Travel 22 miles, and then turn right on Williams Creek Road, continue to reservoir.

Jackson Mountain Road

(Forest Road 037)
Gradual, uphill, 4-mile route to the end of an unplowed road with additional opportunities to travel other roads in the area. Jackson Mountain is a popular area for snowmobiles.
Getting there: Travel 7.3 miles northeast on U.S. 160. Parking is on the left at Jackson Mountain Road.

Wolf Creek Road

(On Wolf Creek Pass — Forest Road 725)
There are three access points along approximately three miles of road with some fairly open, moderate terrain in this area. Views are spectacular. This area is popular for snowmobiling. Skiers typically use Lobo Overlook, 1/2 mile east of the Wolf Creek Pass summit, on the north side of the road.
Getting there: To trailhead: Travel 20 miles northeast on U.S. 160 to Wolf Creek Road.



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Avalanche Awareness

Twenty-nine people were killed by avalanches in the U.S. in 2016, including five in Colorado.

While avalanches are a serious threat to winter backcountry travelers everywhere, they are particularly so here. In fact, according to local avalanche forecaster Mark Mueller with the Colorado Avalanche Information Center, Colorado has recorded more avalanche-related deaths since 1950 than any other state. Therefore, knowing how to recognize the elements that cause avalanches is essential for remaining safe while traveling in the mountains.

As a long spine of high inland peaks, the Colorado Rockies usually accumulate a colder, shallower snowpack than that of the mountain ranges nearer to the west coast. As a result, certain physical characteristics merge to create persistent fragile layers ripe for avalanche, once sufficient stress develops. The San Juan Mountains, for example, possess abundant steep terrain, while receiving ample annual snowfall. As simple gravity increases stress, combined forces routinely elevate the risk of an avalanche.

A combination of weather, steep terrain and existing snowpack structure may give rise to avalanche danger. Weather factors typically include heavy snowfall, high winds and wildly fluctuating temperatures. Avalanche terrain is mainly determined by slope steepness and slope orientation to the wind and sun. Relevant snowpack characteristics include the formation and presence of weak layers vulnerable to increasing stress.

As stress on a slope overcomes the strength of its snowpack, an avalanche can result. Stress can increase dramatically under the weight of new snowfall, the sudden release of a cornice (or snow overhang), or, as an individual or group of skiers, snowboarders or snowmobilers moves across unstable snow. Most often, avalanche victims trigger the slides that overtake them or other members of their group.

Travelers should move singly in avalanche terrain to reduce stress on the snowpack, while possessing the equipment and the skills necessary to successfully affect an avalanche rescue. Because a victim buried just 30 minutes stands less than a 35-percent chance of survival, time is of the essence. To aid in location and rescue efforts, each well-equipped party member should carry an electronic avalanche beacon, probe pole and lightweight shovel. In too many cases involving unintentional slides, ignorance, arrogance, fatigue or peer-group pressure can result in backcountry travelers ignoring obvious

warning signs.

Backcountry travelers caught in an avalanche may not fare well. Whether being buried alive and deprived of oxygen for several minutes or being carried over cliffs, into trees, rocks or other large objects, serious injury — or worse — can result. Therefore, an immediate rescue is essential to increasing a victim's odds of survival. An individual's beacon helps companions locate him or her quickly, while a probe pole and shovel allow individuals to pinpoint and uncover companions buried in the snow. Backcountry enthusiasts can purchase this equipment from various recreational retailers in Pagosa Springs.

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center provides daily mountain weather and avalanche hazard forecasts available on the Web at avalanche.state.co.us and through a local hotline in Durango, (970) 247-8187. Daily forecasts begin in early November and continue through most of April. Backcountry travelers should use this information as a basis for their own risk assessment and trip planning.

Educate yourself. Seek out knowledgeable people, read books, take an established avalanche course and — most important — always pay attention to the clues nature provides, as you travel the backcountry.

Recommended research:

Mark Mueller monitors and forecasts local avalanches for the Colorado Avalanche Information Center and the Colorado Department of Transportation. Based in Pagosa Springs, he is about to begin his 40th winter in the field.

Mark offers a free Community Avalanche Awareness talk every year at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library in Pagosa Springs. Look for announcements for this talk in The Pagosa Springs SUN and at local outdoor shops. This quick overview of the topic is free and only lasts a couple hours.

Helpful reading:

"Snow Sense: A Guide to Evaluating Avalanche Hazard," by Jill Fredston and Doug Fesler (1988) is an excellent resource. It easily fits in a pack, is understandable and was written by two internationally acclaimed avalanche educators.

"The Snowy Torrents," by Nick Logan and Dale Atkins, Colorado Geological Survey (1996) is a collection of actual avalanche accident case histories, this book describes how others responded — both right and wrong. It is available from the Colorado Geologic Survey.



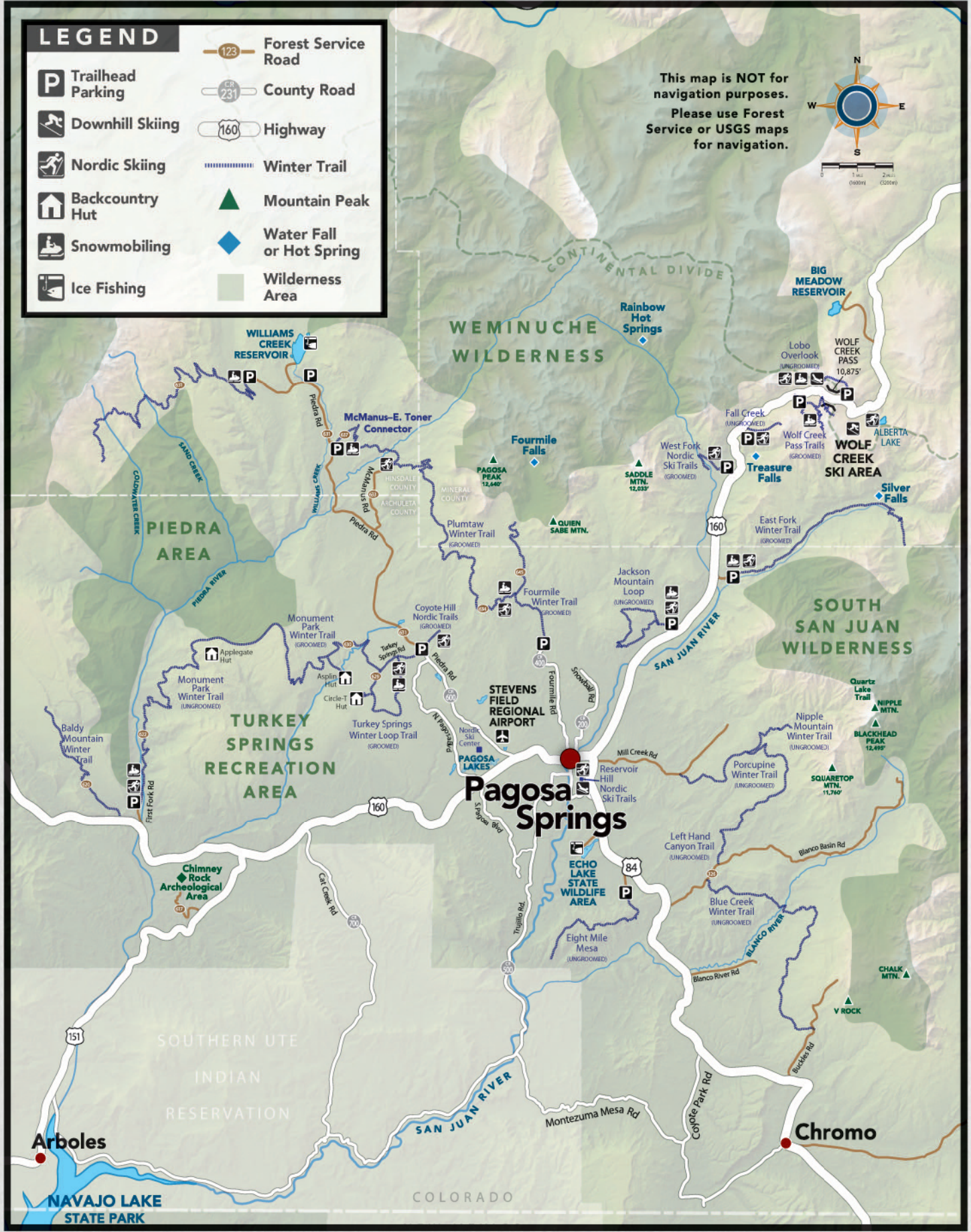
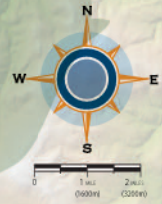
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LEGEND

- Trailhead Parking
- Downhill Skiing
- Nordic Skiing
- Backcountry Hut
- Snowmobiling
- Ice Fishing

- Forest Service Road
- County Road
- Highway
- Winter Trail
- Mountain Peak
- Water Fall or Hot Spring
- Wilderness Area

This map is NOT for navigation purposes. Please use Forest Service or USGS maps for navigation.





MICHAEL PIERCE PHOTOGRAPHY

Why So Much Snow?

The locals aren't exaggerating— Pagosa Country really does have some of the best natural snow in Colorado, and the most of it!

If you don't believe the local lore, check the stats; nearly every winter, an average of 39 feet falls on the area's 12,000-foot alpine summits surrounding Wolf Creek Pass. One year, the total snowfall exceeded 75 feet.

There's no question; this is the reason powder hounds love Wolf Creek Ski Area. No other Colorado ski mountain can predictably offer as much untracked powder and packed powder as Wolf Creek.

Meteorologists attribute Wolf Creek's consistent snow accumulation to the ski area's location within the San Juan Mountains and to numerous high peaks around Pagosa Springs.

According to weather experts, as relatively warm, subtropical moisture from the Pacific pushes east over the southwestern deserts and eventually rises up to surmount the southern San Juan Mountains, it cools and further condenses, thus creating additional moisture. Because colder air holds less moisture, heavy winter precipitation falls in the form of light and powdery snow. The surrounding topography actually funnels this precipitation — referred to as “upslope weather” — to the ski area, thus producing some of the most and best snow anywhere in Colorado.

For winter sports enthusiasts, this means world-class skiing on the runs at Wolf Creek Ski Area, and outstanding cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling throughout Pagosa Country.

Backcountry guidelines

- Observe and obey all trail signs, area restrictions and closures. Certain backcountry areas do not allow access to skiers, snowshoers, snowmobilers, ice climbers and others.
- Though dogs are allowed in most areas of the national forest, owners must keep them on a leash or under voice control at all times. While traveling maintained Nordic trails, skiers should leave pets at home. Paw prints and feces damage groomed surfaces. Dogs are welcome companions on all primitive or unimproved trails.
- Never allow dogs to chase wildlife or domestic livestock.
- All backcountry users should know how to use an avalanche beacon, probe and shovel, and have them along whenever venturing off the beaten path. Voyagers should always travel with at least one companion, and inform others where they're going and what time they'll return.
- While licensed hunters and anglers have paid a nominal surcharge to cover costs associated with a potential search and rescue, all others should buy a Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue Card. They are available online at www.colorado.gov/dola/colorado-outdoor-recreation-search-and-rescue-corsar-card or at over 300 license retailers in the state. Keep in mind, possession of a hunting or fishing license, or search and rescue card, does not cover the cost of helicopter evacuation or ambulance services.
- For local avalanche information or forecasts, call Mark Mueller, Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) avalanche forecaster, at (970) 731-2486. More information can be found on the CAIC website at <http://avalanche.state.co.us>.



RANDI PIERCE

Rest Your Head

Let Pagosa Springs Visitor Center help enhance your vacation experience

Whether you're looking for information on lodging, restaurants or area activities, you're likely to find it and much more by checking out the Pagosa Springs Visitor Center on Hot Springs Boulevard.

Located along the banks of the San Juan River, the Visitor Center features a nice park setting with free wifi, restrooms and a wealth of area information.

Staffed with a team of amazing volunteers waiting to assist you in planning your visit, the Visitor Center is open daily. During the winter, the Visitor Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on weekends from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition, there are multiple brochures outside of the Visitor Center for information after hours.

Each month, Visitor Center volunteers take tours and participate in scavenger hunts of the local amenities to ensure every-

one has a wealth of experience and information to pass on to area visitors.

To help our visitors stay hydrated, Visitor Center staff and volunteers also provide free water bottles, with a water bottle refill station available.

Also, to keep the young ones occupied while the parents gather information about their visit, a children's play corner is provided with puzzles, games and a chalkboard with colored chalk. As an added bonus, the kiddos can take activity books and crayons to help teach them more about historic sites and area wildlife. If they complete the activity book, fun prizes await them at the Visitor Center.

You can reach the Visitor Center by calling (970) 585-1200 or (866) 438-4917, or visit the website www.visitpagosasprings.com.

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SHARI PIERCE

Made in Colorado Shoppe celebrates 25 years in Pagosa Springs

Your trip to Pagosa Country wouldn't be complete without a visit to the Made in Colorado Shoppe.

The delicious butter-cream fudge is made fresh right upstairs in the store's kitchen.

Just as the name suggests, the shop focuses on Colorado products. You will find a variety of delicious gifts for the "foodie" in your life including coffee from right here in Pagosa Springs, jams and jellies from O'Hara's in Durango, a variety of Honeyville products, Gourmet Farms dips from Denver, gourmet beans from Adobe Milling in Dove Creek, packaged fruit products from Alida's in Palisade.

"I moved to Pagosa in 2001 from Boca Raton, Fla. I grew up in northern Wisconsin, my college roommates moved out to Colorado when I went to Florida, I came out to visit and fell

in love with Colorado," said Jean.

This year marks the store's 25th anniversary. Jean Hietala purchased the store in April of 2013.

She started working at the Made in Colorado Shoppe in 2005. After managing the shop for over five years, it seemed to Jean like the most logical step to purchase the business when the owner wanted to sell.

The store is a veritable museum of Colorado products, which are not limited to food-related items. You will find a plethora of souvenirs, fun and affordable jewelry, a wide selection of pottery, popular T-shirts and caps and a variety of gifts to take back home.

Be sure to stop by the store at 2105 Eagle Drive while you are in town, and take a piece of Colorado home with you!

The Pagosa Springs Official Visitor Guide™

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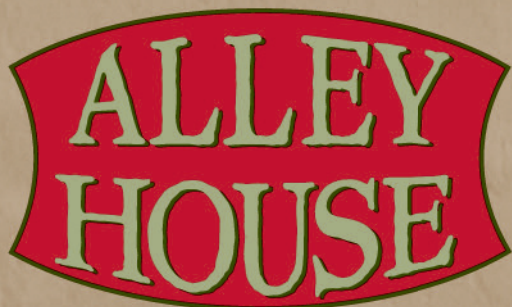
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SHARI PIERCE

Retail Therapy

The Funky Trunk: Fun finds in consignment shopping

Second-hand, vintage, consignment or whatever you call it — the resale market is the trend these days.

The billion-dollar industry has tens of thousands of stores nationwide and there are several wonderful shops located right here in Pagosa Springs.

Shopping at consignment stores is like hunting for buried treasure. Who doesn't love finding a hidden gem?

"My most unique story about a consignment item is on a mink stole that came in last fall," said Funky Trunk owner Donna Brooks.

"It was just like the one my father gave my mother when I was growing up. When I tried it on, it brought back so many memories.

"I put my hands in the pockets and held the front open only to see the name Alma embroidered inside. My mother's best friend's name was Alma.

"The next time I talked with my consigned, I asked if Alma was her mother's name, it was not.

"Her mom bought the mink stole in Arizona at an estate sale several years prior. Alma's last home had been in Arizona. I think my mother and Alma had matching mink stoles. Alma's mink sold last winter to a very happy customer.

"Both my mother and Alma have taken their final walk but their memories are still alive!"

Donna delights in being the owner of the fun women's consignment boutique located at 100 Country Center Drive, Ste. D, across from City Market on the west side of Pagosa Springs.

Donna and her husband, Dirk, moved from Albuquerque to Pagosa Springs in 1976.

She bought the consignment shop in February 2014.

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"I had a few months working part time in the retail business the summer of 2013 and enjoyed the customers and work. When my summer job ended, I went out to find another part time job, Funky Trunk was a place I went to check out," said Donna. "As it ended up, the owner asked me if I wanted to buy the store and I said yes. It just fell in my lap!"

Michelle G. from Minnesota gives Funky Trunk a perfect online rating, "Best place to find great quality, affordably priced fashion of all kinds. Good variety and sizes. Very friendly and helpful staff. I left with more than I had planned on! Don't miss this little treasure tucked away in the mall across from City Market."

Facebook reviewer Denise gave The Funky Trunk the highest possible 5-star rating, "Great shop with beautifully displayed clothing, accessories, and so much more! A great perk for Pagosa Springs! Management is very friendly and does a wonderful job of making visitors feel welcome. Kudos!"

If you are looking for coats to keep you warm, clothes for winter play, warm and cozy sweaters, casual clothing, evening attire, jeans and jackets, or perhaps even a mink stole — there are plenty of amazing finds at Funky Trunk. You can find a variety of sizes from XS-3X. The consignment shop also has jewelry, shoes, purses and swimwear.

Who knows what unique story might be behind your next consignment purchase?

Donna delights in making Funky Trunk's customers feel welcome, "My decision to buy the store still brings so many smiles every day."

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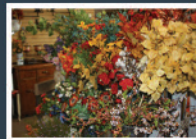
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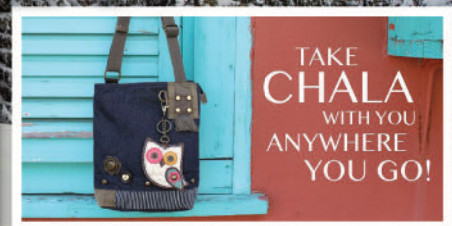
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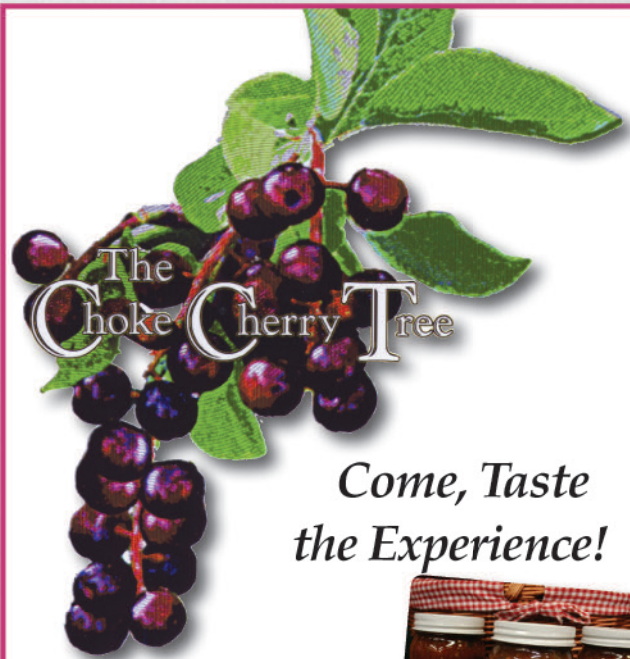
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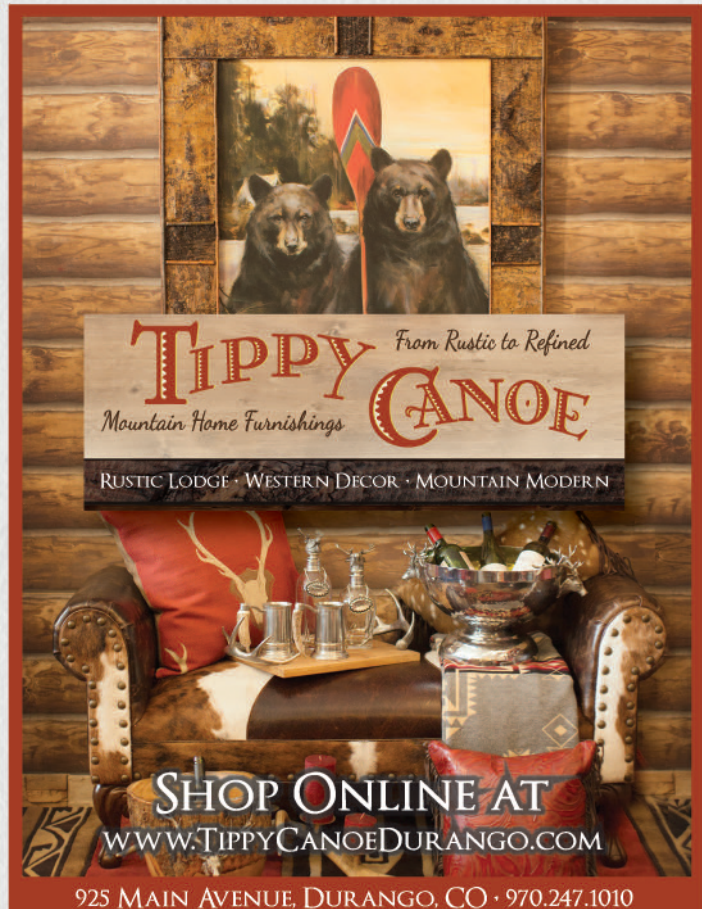
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Real Estate & Home Guide

KIERSTAN RENNER

Kristi Smith's Condo 3061: Pinterest Perfect

By Randi Pierce

"We feel like we're in a real life 'Fixer Upper' done by Joanna Gaines."

"It was like a Pinterest board."

Prior to March of 2017, Condo 3061 looked a little less picture-perfect and a little more like a 1980s condo with bad carpet, popcorn ceiling and "wallpaper galore," according to Kristi Smith, the condo's owner.

It was, as Kristi puts it, "in need of love and elbow grease."

But Condo 3061 fulfilled a dream.

"We stumbled across this place and it was in desperate need of a remodel, but I completely envisioned what I'd been wanting to do for 20 years once I walked into this place," she said.

As comments left by the condo's guests reveal, Kristi and her husband, Gregg, breathed new life into the condo,

pulling it out of its 1980s rut.

Now, Condo 3061 is part of a growing trend in Pagosa Country and nationwide to provide travelers lodging options outside of the traditional hotel room and campsite.

Owning a bed and breakfast in the mountains has been Kristi's dream since college, with her path leading her into the hospitality and event-planning industries.

Then, last year, Kristi started talking about the idea of buying a vacation rental.

"He was totally on board with it, to my surprise," Kristi said of Gregg, and they crunched the numbers and began looking at condos the next day.

Fast forward to December 2016, and the Smiths closed on the condo they'd had under contract since July.

Then came the work.

"All winter we worked on the remodel and the design and picking out everything, and March 1 our doors were

open for spring break," she said. "And we just haven't looked back since ... It's been wonderful."

And it's been successful. During its first summer, Condo 3061 was booked an average of 26 nights per month and dozens of positive comments have been left online and in the condo's guest book.

"Your attention to adding all the fantastic touches were wonderful," one comment states, while another reads, "This is one of the most beautiful, homey places that we have ever stayed and we travel a lot!!"

When visitors to the area walk in the door, the modern, rustic mountain condo greets them with fresh-baked goods on the table to snack on while they settle in, and books and guides geared toward their specific interests picked out by Kristi to help them dive right into their vacation.

That touch, too, has been noted by guests, with another comment noting, "It is clear you put a lot of love and effort into making your guests feel welcome."

And that's exactly what Kristi was going for.

Kristi said the goal for Condo 3061 is simply to create an affordable (about the price of a hotel room, and the price remains the same 365 days a year), welcoming place for families to create memories in the mountains.

"It's been the best job I've ever had," Kristi said.



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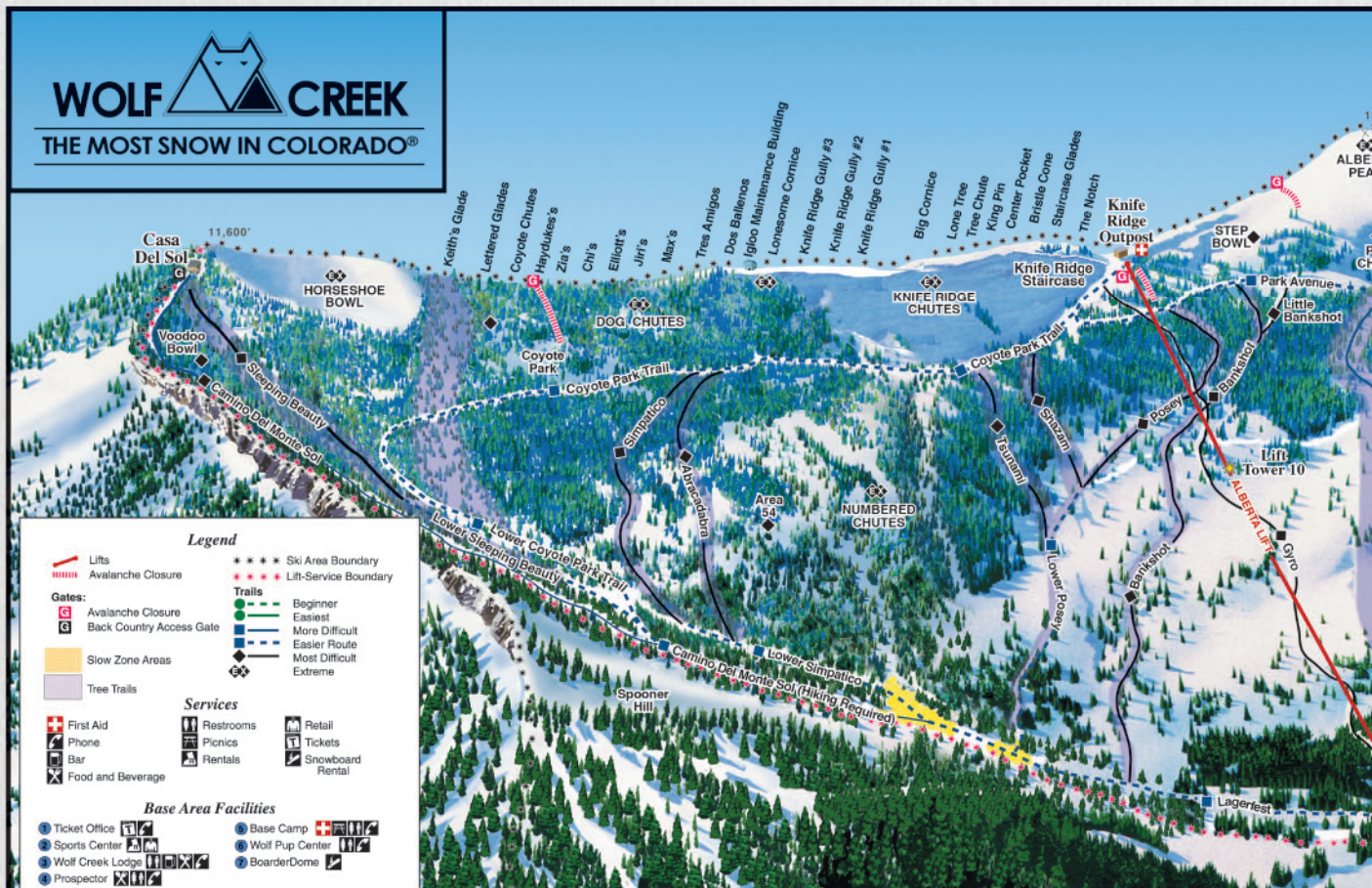


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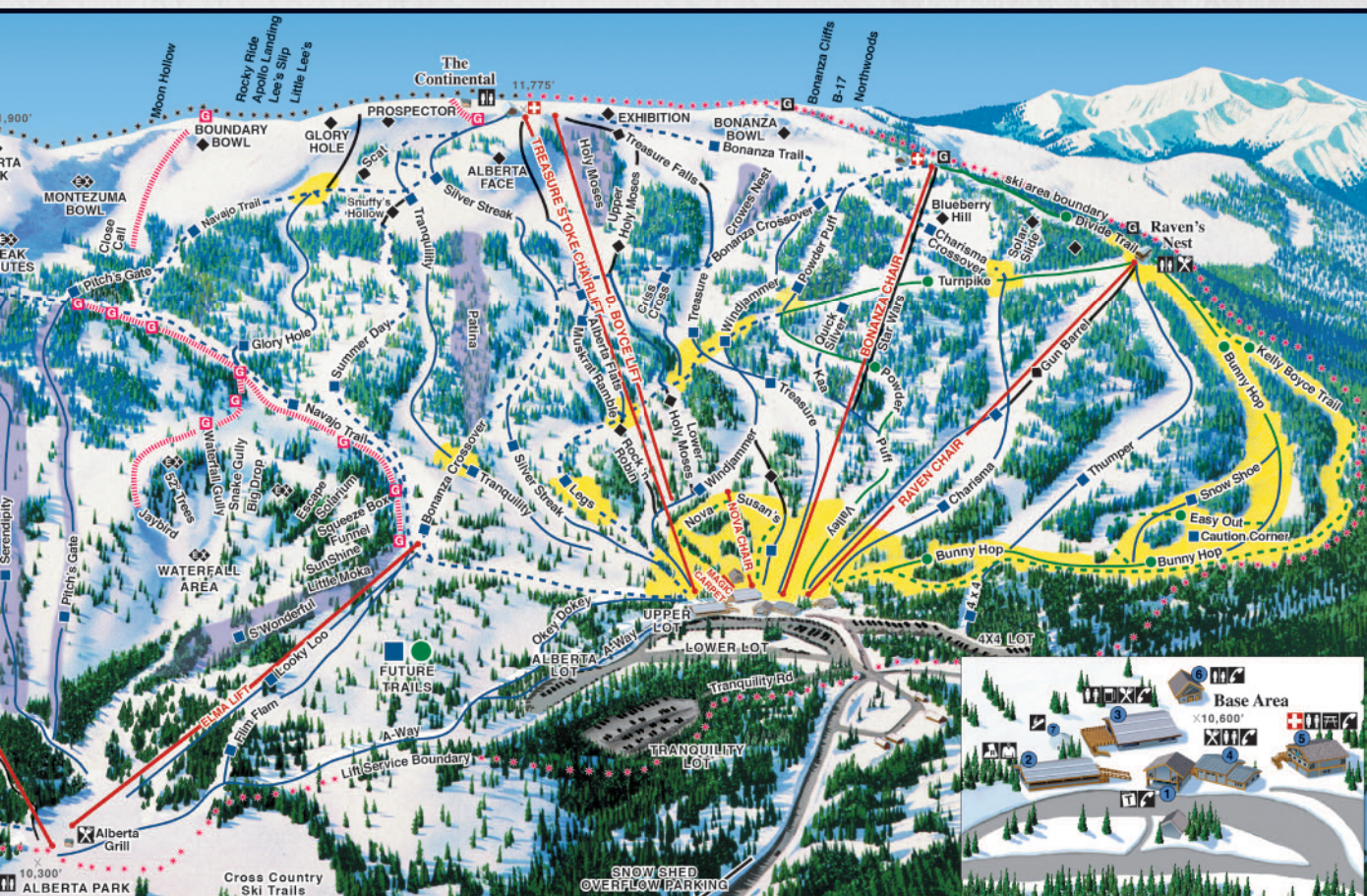


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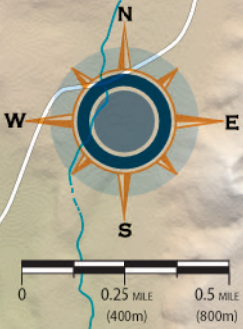
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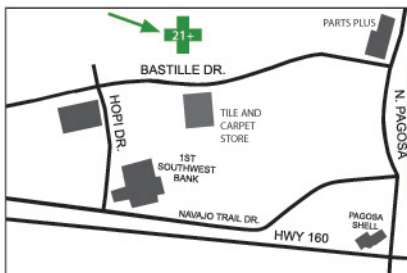


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Great last

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