



#VentureOut

Our Unique Brand

Winter Park Resort has been Colorado's and North America's favorite mountain playground for 80 years. It's no wonder that *USA Today* readers named Winter Park Resort North America's #1 Ski Resort, two years running. And *Elevation Outdoors* solidified Winter Park as Colorado's Top Adventure Town...year round. Public accolades aside, Winter Park is a special place, and there are endless reasons why:

- Winter Park opened in 1940, making it the longest continuously operating ski resort in Colorado
- Creative naming may not have been Winter Park's founders' claim to fame, but recreational foresight certainly was. Denver Parks and Recs pioneers started Winter Park more than 80 years ago as Denver's "winter park."
- Tucked along the west side of the Continental Divide, Winter Park is just 67 miles from Denver, making it the closest major ski area to the city
- On average, Winter Park receives more than 313 inches of snow annually and has the most consistent snow season after season.
- Winter Park's base sits at 9,000 feet above sea level. The resort's chairlifts take you up another 3,060 feet, putting the summit at 12,060 feet.

About the Mountain:

- Two Distinct Mountains: Winter Park and Mary Jane, including Parsenn Bowl, Vasquez Ridge, Eagle Wind and The Cirque.
- Terrain: %100 pure and unspoiled fun = 8% beginner; 18% intermediate; 19% advanced; 52% most difficult; 3% expert only
- Trails: 3,081 total skiable acreage (1,246 hectares), includes 166 designated trails and 1,212 acres (490 hectares) of off-piste terrain, including Vasquez Cirque and glade skiing.
- Lifts: 23 lifts, including three high-speed six-pack lifts, one 10-person gondola, six high-speed express quads, three triplets, six double chairlifts, three surface lifts, and one rope tow.
- Snowmaking: Snow is made on 27 trails, covering 313 acres (127 hectares). Our snowmaking capabilities guarantee the opening of Winter Park before Thanksgiving.

A History of Trailblazing:

- The Moffat Tunnel opened in February 1928, cutting through the Continental Divide and connecting Denver to Salt Lake City and the rest of the West. The tunnel continues to serve freight and passenger train traffic to this day.
- The development and opening of the Moffat Tunnel made the Fraser Valley an ideal location for Denver's "Winter Park."
- George Cranmer is known as the Father of Winter Park. As the head of Denver's Department of Parks and Improvement, in the late 1930s he laid the ground work and raised seed money to begin development of Winter Park.
- Bob Balch was the first manager of Denver's "Winter Sports Park." He is credited with placing the first tows and cutting the first trails at Winter Park.
- In January 1940, Winter Park officially opened as Colorado's largest ski area at the time, with just a single T-bar, the Hughes.
- Many of Winter Park's early visitors came via train from Denver through the Moffat Tunnel, solidifying the historical, commercial and recreational significance of the 6.2-mile passageway.
- In 1950 Allan Phipps took over management of Winter Park as the chair of the Winter Park Recreational Association. That same year, Steve Bradley became executive director of Winter Park.
- In 1953 while at Winter Park, Steve Bradley is credited with introducing the "Bradley Packer," the world's first grooming machine. It is rumored that Bradley hated moguls and developed the Bradley Packer to smooth out Winter Park's trails after a busy weekend. Winter Park used the Bradley Packer for trail grooming until 1978.
- Under Bradley's leadership, Winter Park underwent growth and expansion. In 1958, the Balcony House opened and in 1962, Winter Park introduced three new chairlifts: Hughes Chairlift (replacing the T-bar), the Eskimo and the Prospector. In 1966, the Looking Glass was installed. The original Looking Glass lift is still in operation today and is considered the oldest chairlift in Colorado.
- In 1969, the US Forest Service began accepting bids to develop Mary Jane mountain for skiing. Winter Park was the only entity to bid on the project and was subsequently awarded the use permit.
- Mary Jane opened for the 1975-76 ski season with 18 new trails and four new lifts: the Pony Express, Iron Horse, Challenger, Galloping Goose.
- The Winter Park Alpine Slide opened in 1980, ushering in a focus on summer operations. The alpine slide is a concrete channel more than half a mile long and is still considered Colorado's longest alpine slide.
- Winter Park expanded skiable terrain again in 1985 with the addition of Parsenn Bowl, accessed only by snowcat, and again in 1986 with the development of Vasquez Ridge, accessed by the Pioneer Express. The Timberline lift opened in 1992, giving lift access to Parsenn Bowl.
- The 2000s brought even more expansion to Winter Park. The Super Gauge launched in 2005 and massively increased uphill capacity on Mary Jane. The Eagle Wind lift opened in 2006, and the Panoramic Express, replacing the Timberline lift, began shuttling skiers

and riders to the top of Parsenn Bowl in 2007. The Cirque Sled was introduced in 2013, giving skiers and riders quicker and easier access to the extreme terrain of The Cirque.

- Today, skiable terrain at Winter Park Resort totals more than 3,000 acres, all accessible by lift and/or snowcat, giving skiers and riders some of the most varied in-bounds patrolled terrain in North America.