



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## STEAMBOAT IN THE SUMMERTIME

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO--Did you ever wonder what happens once the warm sun melts away the last traces of snow? It's time to stop wondering and start exploring all that happens in Steamboat in the summertime from mountain activities to shopping, wilderness areas, water sports, wind adventures and more.

"SKI Magazine is the latest publication to point out what we've all known for a long time, Steamboat is a fabulous summer destination," said Chris Diamond, president of Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation. *SKI Magazine* named Steamboat one of North America's top 30 premier mountain summer resorts in its May/June, 2001 & 2002 issues.

**Burgess Creek Sunset Dinner Rides**-- The Sunset Dinner Ride offers guests a 45-minute, guided horseback or horse-drawn wagon ride under the guidance of Steamboat Lake Outfitter wranglers followed by an upscale cowboy dinner. The trail winds through groves of aspen and evergreens, wildflower fields and open meadows on a mixture of single-track trails and mountain roads to the buck and rail fence lined Burgess Creek Ranch Pavilion, known as the Bashor Area in the winter. Steamboat's executive chef, Liz Wahl, has designed a mouth-watering menu featuring a choice of steak, grilled chicken or grilled trout, plus all the fix'ns.

**Gourmet Guide Hike** -- Every Tuesday and Friday, the Steamboat Ski Area Ambassadors guide hikers on an invigorating 1.5 mile trek from the top of the gondola to the Four Points Hut. Hikers will learn about the area's flora and fauna, geology, history and geography as hikers venture to 9,716 feet. As a reward for their efforts, hikers enjoy a specially prepared gourmet lunch while taking in the beauty and serenity of Mount Werner.

**Slingshot Trampoline Bungee Jump** -- In the new Slingshot hybrid trampoline/bungee jump provides a secure and fun way for the entire family to experience "big air" on the mountain. Steamboat's Slingshot combines the excitement of bungee jumping with the fun of trampoline jumping in a controlled environment.

**EastFast Climbing Wall** -- Steamboat's 24-foot rock climbing wall, situated at the base of the ski area, offers a challenging and thrilling experience for ages 5 and above. See if you can summit the Wall!

**Hiking** -- Start at the top of the gondola or from the base area. The Thunderhead Hiking Trail meanders through aspen and evergreen groves with scenic vistas of the Yampa Valley. This three-mile trail has a 2,180-ft. vertical gain/loss. The Vista Nature Trail is a one-mile loop trail starting from Thunderhead and offers interpretive information on wildlife habitat and local native vegetation while providing breathtaking views of the Yampa Valley and the Steamboat Ski Area. The first half-mile is a wide, graded, gravel path, and the second half mile is a hiking trail. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy one of the picnic areas along this one-mile trail.

**Mountain Biking** -- Steamboat's mountain bike network has gained an internationally known reputation. National, Olympic, World and Tour de France champions have all challenged themselves against the technical aspects, elevation and mountain environment of Mt. Werner. More than 50-miles of trails await all ability levels. If you don't have your own bike, a full line of full- and front-suspension rental bikes is available. The Steamboat Mountain Bike School offers private and semi-private clinics for those looking to improve their bike handling skills throughout the summer.

**Gondola Rides** -- The Steamboat 8-passenger gondola will provide the opportunity to explore the top of Thunderhead Peak by mountain bike, hike along the nature trails, or just enjoy the outdoors and its breathtaking views. The gondola will operate on weekends in June, then daily from late June through Labor Day, and then again on weekends until late September. Uphill operations run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm (weather permitting) with the last download at 4:30 pm.

**On-Mountain Shopping** -- Steamboat's retail shops offer summer shoppers a multitude of on-mountain options. Choose from mountain bike accessories, resort wear, logo wear & ball caps at RideSports in Gondola Square and souvenirs and gifts at the 9,000 ft. Top Shop-at the top of the gondola. On select weekends throughout summer, local artisans display their crafts in Gondola Square.

**Kids Adventure Club** -- The Kids' Adventure Club combines friendship and adventure through fun "hands-on" exploration of Steamboat and its special Western surroundings. The Club will offer two types of camps: a mini-camp for children three and four years old and a day camp for children 5 to 12 years. Activities for the mini-camps include short hikes, outdoor games, arts and crafts, picnics, and water activities. The day camp involves similar activities with outdoor adventures including mountain biking, kayaking, tennis, swimming, scavenger hunts, and other outdoor activities. Kids' Adventure Club operates Monday-Friday, mid June-late August. Activities are provided Monday-Friday, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Children are accepted as early as 7:30 am and cared for until 5:30 pm. Reservations are required.

**Disc Golf** -- Disc golf is quickly becoming one of the most-popular summer activities at the Steamboat Ski Area. Disc-golf enthusiasts can test their skills on Steamboat's nine-hole course, which is easily accessed from Gondola Square. The course is free to the public and open daily until dusk. Disc rentals, sales and scorecards are available at RideSports.

**Music** -- The sound of music echoes throughout the mountain village and the Yampa Valley all summer long. Thousands of locals and visitors alike continue to be entertained on the slopes of Headwall with free evening concerts from late June through Labor Day. Entertainers such as Keb Mo, John Haitt, Lyle Lovett, Little Feat, Marshall Tucker Band, Michelle Shocked, Buckwheat Zydeco, Radiators, to name a few have delighted cheering fans. In addition, the resort has hosted the last two years, the Independence Incident featuring the hottest in music over a two-day event. Strings in the Mountains, launched in 1988, includes more than 150 artists participating in: daytime children's concerts, and a wide variety of classical, contemporary and educational programming in schools, libraries, senior facilities, art centers, parks and community facilities. Strings is nationally recognized as one of the foremost music festivals in the country.

**Alpine Slide** -- The Mountain and Howelsen Hill have once again teamed up to offer thrill seekers the Ride & Slide Package. Adrenaline junkies receive three Howler Alpine Slide tickets and one all-day Steamboat gondola ticket for a special price. The Howler is the steepest alpine slide in Colorado and offers an experience not to be missed.

**The Nature Den** -- The Nature Den, located in the Yurt at the top of the gondola, provides an interpretive exhibit and information on the area. The Nature Den is open daily. Yampatika's Partners in Interpretation also provides a Family Scavenger Hunt Backback for checkout at the Information Center

**Events** -- Steamboat is home to numerous special events in the summer such as Balloon Rodeo, Art-in-the-Park, Cowboy Round-Up Days, Marathon, River Festivals, Mountain Bike Races, Running Races, the Soaring Championships, Music Concerts, Soccer, Baseball and Softball Tournaments, Rodeo and County Fair, Literary Sojourn, Fall Foliage & Mountain Brewfest, and Art Openings and Displays. [www.steamboatsummer.com](http://www.steamboatsummer.com)

**Steamboat Season Passes** -- Your 2002/03 Steamboat Season Pass is valid the entire summer too! Use it to ride the gondola throughout the summer and enjoy all the mountain has to offer. In addition, the resort offers a critter pass, for dog owners who would like pass for their critter. The pass, which has a picture of your critter, has a one-time fee of \$10, \$5 of which goes to the Routt County Humane Society. The Critter Pass is not required for gondola access.

**Steamboat Grand Resort Hotel** -- The upscale Steamboat Grand Resort Hotel, which opened in October 2000 and features a western-themed mountain lodge ambiance, is located in the heart of the Mountain Village just steps from the gondola that takes visitors up the mountain in summer to hike and mountain bike. Amenities include 328 luxuriously appointed guest rooms and suites; full Fitness Center with spa services; year-round heated outdoor pool with two large built-in whirlpools and swim-out access; acclaimed Contemporary Colorado Cuisine in The Cabin; a daily Child Care Center; rodeo-themed bar and grill; and a game room featuring the latest video games. Escape this summer to Steamboat Springs, in the lush green Yampa Valley in the Rocky Mountains, on your choice of special packages offered by the Steamboat Grand. The upscale hotel's packages, which offers guests some of the best that the hotel and the destination have to offer, are priced for summer at 50 percent off high-season rates

**Special Summer Packages** -- An array of special summer packages may be booked through Steamboat Central Reservations™, which represents the majority of lodging properties in the area, at 1-800-922-2722 or online at [www.steamboat.com](http://www.steamboat.com). Whether you are traveling alone or with the entire family, these summer packages offer significant savings on lodging and summertime activities throughout the Yampa Valley.