**Steamboat**

**Categories**

**Good For**

Beginners

Intermediates

Experts

Snowboarders

Families

Non-skiers

Après ski

Snow reliability

**Data**

**Beginner Runs**

23

**Intermediate Runs**

69

**Advanced Runs**

72

**Total Runs**

164

**Lifts**

18

**Chairs**

15

**Drags**

2

**Gondola Cable Cars**

1

**Parks**

5

**Pipes**

1

**Weather**

**Annual Snowfall**

8.85m (29ft).

**Overview**

Steamboat Springs is an atmospheric cowboy town that plays on its Wild West heritage to make it a year-round attraction. It is filled with themed shops, hefty steakhouses and good ol’ drinking saloons, including some that have been trading since the 19th century days of Stetson hats and cattle lassoing.

Its reputation for abundant, fluffy light powder snow and tendency for producing more US Olympic skiers than any other resort has also birthed its marketing slogan: ‘Ski Town USA’.

The ski resort, which is a few miles out of town, is a thoroughly modern place that still has echoes of Wild West terrain with its age-old view down the rolling Yampa Valley. Over the last 50 years or so, it’s grown into one of America’s larger ski centres with a community of its own with an ever-improving collection of shops, restaurants and slope-side lodging.

**Location**

Steamboat is located to the northwest of Denver in the state of Colorado in the USA. The resort is within the Rocky Mountains range.

**Website**

www.steamboat.com

**Piste Map**

http://ww1.steamboat.com/web/maps/SteamboatTrails.pdf

**Hit The Slopes**

Steamboat has excellent terrain for all ability levels, from easy slopes for beginners and cruising pistes for intermediates to double black diamond chutes for experts.

Advanced skiers love the challenge of heading downhill amongst the trees (for which Steamboat is famous), especially when there's deep 'champagne powder'. In fact, skiers can spend all day hardly touching a groomed piste. The toughest runs are from the top of Morningside Park, which has a choice of black and double black diamond chutes and bowls.

Intermediates can flash around on the easier Sunshine Peak runs or the moderately challenging Morningside Park pistes. Many of the ‘advanced runs’ here are also suitable for confident intermediates. Beginners, meanwhile, are well served by the nursery slopes at the base.

The runs in Steamboat are well linked, thanks to the modern lift system dominated by high-speed chairs and the gondola that departs from the village at the base of the slopes.

The ski school here is highly rated too as it includes the services of former Olympic silver medallist Billy Kidd. Intermediate and expert skiers can venture out with Billy on three-day race camps or join him for a free clinic at 1300 on days he skis at the resort. In addition, skiers that enjoy the moguls can join Olympic medalist Nelson Carmichael at 1300 on select Sundays for free tips down the black diamond run that bears his name, Nelson’s Run.

Unusually, Steamboat also offers night skiing too. The season runs from late November until mid-April.

**Steamboat**

**Resort**

2103

**Base**

2103

**Top**

3224

**General**

**Beyond The Slopes**

Steamboat Springs is a pleasing place in which to wander, with its bookshops, cafés, galleries and various Wild West-themed attractions.

Those who want further on-snow action can try snowmobiling, dog sledding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horse riding, snowbiking, snow tubing, ice fishing on the Stagecoach Reservoir and ice-climbing on the frozen Fish Creek Falls waterfall.

Horse-drawn sleigh rides are popular with families, but those with more adventurous little ones might want to send them up in the Slingshot Bungee Jump Trampoline (weather permitting) in Gondola Square.

Less energetic options include helicopter or balloon flights, a 4-wheel drive trip into the woods, nature walks and photography lessons. The ultimate relaxation here though is to lounge in rustic, open-air Strawberry Park Hot Springs (tel: +1 970 879 0342; [www.strawberryhotsprings.com](http://www.strawberryhotsprings.com)).

**Family Fun**

Steamboat is great for families. At the slopeside base, children from six months to six years can begin their first steps on the white stuff. The 'one hour on-snow' activities begin from age two. Older children (up to the age of 15) can also be taught in their relevant age groups.

Families can have fun tubing or taking part in the dozen or so other family-friendly activities available off the slopes, while boarding teenagers might well have a go on the massive Mavericks superpipe.

There are plenty of fun and affordable kid-friendly places to eat in downtown Steamboat Springs, including Johnny B. Good’s Diner (tel: +1 970 870 8400; [www.johnnybgoodsdiner.com](http://www.johnnybgoodsdiner.com)), which serves milkshakes and burgers.

**Retail Therapy**

There is a quaint main street with a range of shops in Steamboat Springs. Don't miss FM Light (tel: +1 970 879 1822; www.[fmlight.com](http://fmlight.com)), a great old ‘Western wear’ store. There are many galleries, including Artisans' Market of Steamboat (tel: +1 970 879 7512; [www.steamboatartisansmarket.com](http://www.steamboatartisansmarket.com)), a non-profit cooperative of local creatives that sells all manner of things from jewellery and paintings to clothes.

**Splashing Out**

Steamboat is known for its natural hot springs and is perfect for a relaxing soak. Old Town Hot Springs (tel: +1 970 879 1828; [www.oldtownhotsprings.org](http://www.oldtownhotsprings.org)) is family-friendly with a variety of pools and slides, while the rustic Strawberry Park Hot Springs are set amid the mountains (tel: +1 970 879 0342; [www.strawberryhotsprings.com](http://www.strawberryhotsprings.com)).

**Apres Ski**

There’s a good mix of après ski at Steamboat. Sheraton’s Bear River Bar and Grill (tel: +1 970 879 2220; [www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com)) has a lively terrace, while Mahogany Ridge Brewery and Grill (tel: +1 970 879 3773; [www.mahoganyridgesteamboat.com](http://www.mahoganyridgesteamboat.com)), serves fine home-brewed beer (try the Alpenglow). The Old Town Pub (tel: +1 970 879 2101; www.[oldtownpub.jimdo.com](http://oldtownpub.jimdo.com)) buzzes, but head to Schmiggity’s (tel: +1 970 879 4100; [www.schmiggitys.com](http://www.schmiggitys.com)) for dancing.

Visitors in March and April should make the most of The Rocks the Boat Free Concert series, which brings top bands to the heart of base area.

**Eating Out**

There are around 100 bars and restaurants in Steamboat encompassing everything from cute cafés to restaurants dishing up Pacific Rim dishes.

Café Diva (tel: +1 970 871 0508; [www.cafediva.com](http://www.cafediva.com)) is one the best, serving innovative food with seasonal ingredients, but for an unmissable five-course Italian dinner, book at Four Points Lodge (tel: +1 970 871 5150).

Hazie's (tel: +1 970 871 5150) offers top-notch food and sweeping views of the Yampa Valley, while Ore House (tel: +1 970 879 1190; [www.orehouse.com](http://www.orehouse.com)) and 8th Street Steakhouse (tel: +1 970 879 3131; [www.8thstreetsteakhouse.com](http://www.8thstreetsteakhouse.com)) both fit the Western theme with hearty meat dishes.

**Transport**

**Getting There**

Nearest airports: Yampa Valley Airport (HDN); Denver International Airport (DEN).

Distances to resort: 37km (22 miles); 270km (170 miles).

Driving times: 30 minutes; 3 hours 30 minutes.

**Getting Around**

A free bus service connects the town and ski area. Shuttles operate services to and from nearby airports.

**Hotels**

Steamboat has plenty of high-quality slopeside accommodation from the luxurious to the affordable. Options range from catered chalets and motels to countless apartments and hotels.

**EagleRidge Lodge**

This luxury Wyndham condo complex is close to the slopes and marries Alpine architecture with American quality. It also has good spa facilities and a shuttle to all local attractions.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

201 Lincoln Avenue

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80477

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 879 5555.

**Website**

www.wyndhamvacationrentals.com

**The Inn at Steamboat**

With roaring fires, stonemasonry on the walls and tartan bed sheets, this 3-star hotel feels rather homely. Only four blocks from the gondola, The Inn includes a year-round outdoor heated pool, hot tub, sauna and free shuttle to lifts.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

3070 Columbine Dr

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80477

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 879 2600.

**Website**

www.innatsteamboat.com

**Nordic Lodge of Steamboat Springs**

It’s only the abundance of wood in the rooms that makes this well-located, 2-star motel remotely Nordic, but it’s within easy walking distance of downtown’s restaurants and shops. It has a friendly, helpful owner and good breakfast.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

1036 Lincoln Avenue

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80477

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 879 0531.

**Website**

www.nordiclodgeofsteamboat.com

**Steamboat Mountain Lodge**

A pleasant rustic-style hotel within walking distance of various nightlife and shopping options, Steamboat Mountain Lodge offers free breakfast, free Wi-Fi and an outdoor hot tub.

**Category**

Moderate

**Thoroughfare**

3155 Lincoln Avenue

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80477

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 871 9121.

**Website**

www.thebunkhouselodge.com

**Steamboat Grand**

Grand by name, even great in size, this 4-star hotel complex offers wonderful condo-style accommodation with all the lavish trimmings of a premium hotel. The outdoor heated pool and day spa are among the best in town.

**Category**

Luxury

**Thoroughfare**

2300 Mount Werner Circle

**Neighborhood**

Mountain Village

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80487

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 871 5050.

**Website**

www.steamboatgrand.com

**Rabbit Ears Motel**

This old-style motel is basic, but has free Wi-Fi access, in-room refrigerators and microwaves and offers free breakfast. The staff are superb as well.

**Category**

Cheap

**Thoroughfare**

201 Lincoln Avenue

**Neighborhood**

XXX

**Locality**

Steamboat Springs

**Sub Admin Area**

XXX

**Admin Area**

XXX

**Postcode**

CO 80477

**Country**

XXX

**Telephone**

+1 970 879 1150.

**Website**

www.rabbitearsmotel.com