

Snowmass Celebrates Kids With V.I.K. Snowmass

Very Important Kids (V.I.K) Snowmass is a Hub for All Things Kid-Friendly in Snowmass, Including Activities, Summer Camps, & Events



Photo Credit: Tamara Susa

Snowmass Village, Colo., (Summer 2019) – In Snowmass Village, every child is a Very Important Kid. In honor of these younger guests, Snowmass has developed V.I.K. Snowmass, a hub for activities, events, and information to help ensure that the next generation has nothing but fun while visiting the iconic mountain village. Kids visiting Snowmass this summer can take advantage of a variety of activities, events, themed day camps, workshops at Anderson Ranch Art Center, and much more.

Kid Friendly Activities

Lost Forest: Debuting last summer, Aspen Snowmass greatly enhanced Snowmass' summer operations with the Lost Forest, including a new Breathtaker Alpine Coaster, a Canopy Run Zipline Tour, a Treeline Trial Challenge Course and a Rugged Ascent Climbing Wall. The over \$10 million expansion project branded as The Lost Forest continues to provide guests the opportunity to be immersed in the mountain's alpine environment. New this year, a net/play structure has been added to the challenge course for smaller children who do not meet the height/weight requirements of the full course. Additionally, the weight limit for the challenge course has been lowered to 50 pounds. Lost Forest Base Access costs \$59 and includes lift, coaster and climbing wall access. Lost Forest Full Access costs \$89 and includes lift, challenge course, coaster and climbing wall access. Lost Forest Peak Access costs \$219 and includes the canopy zipline tour plus a second full day of Lost Forest Full Access. For those looking to access the Lost Forest all summer long, a season pass is available for \$319 and includes lift access, challenge course, coaster and climbing wall. Lost Forest is open daily from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., June 21-September 2, as well as Friday-Sunday only September 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29, and October 4-6.

Snowmass Rodeo: The Snowmass Rodeo, one of the oldest continuously running rodeo in

Colorado, celebrates 46 years this summer. Held weekly on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer at 7:00 p.m., the Rodeo offers a truly authentic, Old West experience filled with vintage charm and fun. The Snowmass Rodeo includes live music, mutton bustin' and activities for kids, and true rodeo competition with events from barrel racing to bull riding. 2019 Snowmass Rodeo Dates – June 12-August 21.

Snowmass Free Concert Series: On 11 consecutive Thursdays (June 13 – August 22) and two bonus Saturdays (June 8 and July 13) throughout the summer, Snowmass hosts a weekly free concert series on Fanny Hill, showcasing genres of music ranging from reggae, to soul, to funk, to rock. 2019 marks the 28th year of the Snowmass Free Concert Series. New this summer is Rock for a Reason on July 13, where select non-profits are invited to share their vision with Snowmass community during the Snowmass Free Concert Series bonus Saturday.

Fridays on the Mall – Fridays, June 21-Augut 23: Kick off the weekend on the Snowmass Mall with music, extended business hours, local artisans, food & drink specials, and more.

Farm-to-Table Tuesdays at Elk Camp Restaurant – July 2-August 13:

Take the Elk Camp Gondola to Elk Camp Restaurant and enjoy an a la cart dinner inspired by the farm-to-table movement with locally sourced ingredients. A full cash bar, plenty of outdoor family activities and live music complete the experience. Now in its second year, the Snowmass Bike Park's Race Series expands to six events for 2019. The SBP Race Series takes place Tuesdays, July 9-August 13. Join local and visiting riders in a top-to-bottom sprint on a different course each week, followed by drink specials and awards at the Limelight Hotel Snowmass.

Colorado's Tallest Rock-Realistic Indoor Climbing Wall at Limelight Snowmass:

Snowmass is the home to Colorado's largest indoor rock-realistic climbing wall, towering at 54 feet high and running directly up front of the new Limelight Hotel in Snowmass, part of the \$600 million Snowmass Base Village project. The massive five-story climbing wall features a granite- like surface which mirrors featured climbs near Snowmass, including the popular Grotto area on Independence Pass. Colorado's Boulder-based Eldorado Climbing Walls designed the striking structure that features an auto-belay system with three different lanes and six routes.

Snowmass Ice Age Discovery Center: In 2010, a construction crew unearthed a single tusk of a young female mammoth while digging at Ziegler Reservoir. The Denver Museum of Nature and Science took over the site and went on to find 5,000 bones of 10 mammals and over 26,000 small bones from small vertebrate animals— 40 species in all. The 10-month project became a race to uncover and carefully extricate these bones. Mammoths, mastodons, camels, horses, sloths, and other species, as well as insects, plant life and more were found. The Snowmass paleontological site is the richest Ice Age ecosystem found at high altitude. Guests can learn about the site of this important discovery during two daily free guided tours with an Aspen Center for Environmental Services (ACES) Naturalist. The two-hour round-trip tours are an easy/moderate hike with panoramic vistas to where these incredible fossils were found. Find more information on www.gosnowmass.com.

Summer at the Rink in Snowmass Base Village: The Base Village Plaza is home to a wide variety of events this summer. Summer at the Rink kicks off the last week in June to coincide with the opening of the Elk Camp Gondola and The Lost Forest and lasts through the fall. Summer at the Rink transforms the ice rink into an activity lawn with family fun games, pop-up kids' fountains, and a shave ice stand. Rotating lawn games are available seven days a week, including human bowling, corn hole, giant Jenga, Connect Four, hula hoops, pogo sticks, sack racing, and more.

A weekly line up of family friendly activities and events also takes shape for the summer in the Plaza. On Monday afternoons, learn to slack line during a slack line clinic and demonstrations. On Thursday afternoons, join the Snowmass Summer Concert Series preconcert party on the rink, including family games and more. Enjoy Friday afternoons at an Artisan Market featuring local vendors and artisans as they display their finest works and tasty bites. On select Saturday nights starting June 26, enjoy "Movies under the Stars", in partnership with the Aspen Film, for a series of family films, picnics, and free popcorn.

Blazing Adventures: Book an excursion with Blazing Adventures, Snowmass' premier adventure outfitter. Choose from options including biking at the iconic Maroon Bells, rafting, sunset dinners, jeep tours, and much more. Visit www.blazingadventures.com to book.

Summer Camps for Kids

Children visiting Snowmass can take their pick from a wide array of kid's camp opportunities, from themed summer camp, to outdoor time, to arts & crafts.

The Snowmass Recreation Center offers full day kid's camps with different fun activities including arts & crafts, indoor rock climbing, hiking, swimming, field trips, and more. Adults can join in the fun by participating in drop-in tennis, volleyball, and soccer, and the whole family can enjoy the Rec Center's facilities, including an outdoor pool, indoor climbing wall, basketball courts, fitness equipment, and more. In addition, the Snowmass Rec Center features Family Night at the Rec Center, where families receive entry at a discounted rate. The Snowmass Recreation Center includes outdoor heated saline pools, basketball courts, workout equipment, a climbing wall and bouldering cave, and much more.

<u>Camp SMashbox</u>, a day camp for kids, hosts themed camps such as tribal camp, pirate camp, and wild west camp, amongst others, as well as camps focused on team-building, crafts, adventures, obstacle courses, and more. Week long camps are available throughout the summer on select weeks from June – August 2019.

<u>Camp Aspen Snowmass</u> at the Treehouse Kid's Adventure Center offers day camps with activities including downhill biking, rock climbing, fishing, rafting, rocket building, mountainboarding, arts and crafts, hiking, overnight campouts, ropes courses, Lost Forest, and more.

Camp Aspen Snowmass also offers Cubs Camp childcare at the Kids Treehouse Adventure Center (ages 1 to 3, must be walking). Little ones can experience everything the Treehouse Kids' Adventure Center has to offer, including playrooms, guided art and music activities, as well as a ride up the Elk Camp Gondola for toddler-friendly adventures and interaction with nature.

Roaring Fork Cycling offers mountain bike camps three day per week, all summer long, for kids grades 1-6. Kids can hone their skills riding maintained cross country trails with local riders and pros. The mission of Roaring Fork Cycling is to Empower Youth Through Cycling.

Anderson Ranch features half day and full day offerings in addition to week-long workshops for kids ages 4-12. Day and half-day workshops range from material-based and traditional artistic disciplines to interdisciplinary technology, animation, robotics, and video in Ranch "Techshops". Week long summer workshop highlights include "3-D Printing", where students learn the fundamentals of 3-D printing technology and software programs, and '4th of July Parade Extravaganza", where students design an ultra-artistic and imaginative float for Aspen's Old Fashioned Fourth of July Parade. Both workshops include mini field trips around the Ranch to experience the studios and Visiting Artists at work as well as a Friday art show of the students' work for Ranch community, friends, and family.

New this summer, is a collaboration camp with the Aspen Center for Environmental Studies. Anderson Ranch and ACES are offering a co-workshop the week of June 10th for children which will culminate in a fun public event on June 14th at Rock Bottom Ranch called "The Art of Flight: An

Environmental and Artistic Spectacle." This family-friendly event features DIY crafts, face painting, food trucks, and an IBEX Puppetry performance that highlights nature, artistic engineering, and visual storytelling. The artwork from the children's workshop "Fly High in the Sky" will be on display. Register online at andersonranch.org or call (970) 923-3181.

The Snowmass Club offers Camp Elevation, joining a host of fun and adventurous day camps in Snowmass. Available to Club members and non-members alike, Camp Elevation offers full-week and drop-in options with activities such as golf lessons with a PGA Pro, tennis lessons with a USTA pro, a putt putt course, giant slip & slide, STEM projects, and whitewater rafting trips on Fridays.

Kid-Friendly Events

Snowmass features an extensive lineup of unique cultural, foodie, and adventure events, to name a few, this summer. Particularly kid friendly events include:

The Snowmass Community Celebration & Concert – July 4: Guests and visitors alike are invited to Snowmass to celebrate the evening of the Fourth of July. The event coincides with the Snowmass Free Concert Series on Fanny Hill, featuring Here Come The Mummies, in addition to complimentary lawn games, sweet treats, and more in Snowmass Base Village.

Yoga on the Mountain – July 19-21: The third annual Yoga on the Mountain, presented by Power Yoga Retreats, returns to Snowmass for a three-day festival celebrating yoga, music, and nature. The weekend schedule includes restorative yoga classes, advanced asana workshops, and focused sessions on mudras, mantras, bandhas and breath work – all mixed with meditation, hiking, and discussions.

JAS Aspen Snowmass Labor Day Experience – August 30-September 1: JAS Aspen Snowmass Labor Day Experience, a world-class music festival, set amidst the stunning backdrop of Snowmass Village, returns to Snowmass Town Park with headliners including Sting, John Mayer, Weezer, Luke Combs, Portugal. The Man, H.E.R., ZZ Ward, and Turkuaz.

Snowmass Balloon Festival – September 6-8: The 44th Annual Snowmass Balloon Festival, a long-standing Rocky Mountain tradition, fills the sky with eclectic balloons, as 30 pilots launch their hot air balloons into the air at sunrise. The weekend features three days of festive balloons, pilot games, a night glow, kid's activities, and more.

Septemberfest & Cidermass – September 7: Septemberfest & Cidermass celebrate all things fall in Snowmass Village. Cidermass features hard cider tastings from 25-30 vendors from all over the country on the Snowmass Mall in the morning, while the third annual Septemberfest returns to Base Village in the afternoon with wine and sake tastings, food vendors, children's activities, music, and more.

For more information on Snowmass' V.I.K. program, events, camps, and more, please visit www.gosnowmass.com.

About Snowmass Village, Colorado – A renowned winter playground and vibrant summer community just 9 miles from downtown Aspen, Snowmass consistently ranks as one of the best ski areas in the world and was listed by USA Today as one of the 25 fastest-growing vacation destinations in 2017. Snowmass offers guests incredible views of mountain vistas, in addition to 2.8 million adjacent acres, open for activities and exploration. Snowmass offers a wide variety of outdoor activities, 25+ restaurants, 95 percent on-slope lodging, world-class shopping, unique special events and music – all year round. For more information and a complete calendar of events and activities, please visit: www.gosnowmass.com.

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