

DEPARTURES

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What's New in Jackson Hole

By Brandon Perlman

The Wyoming resort destination is the one of the year's top spot for skiing, snowboarding, and après-mountain activities. Here, a look at what's new in and around the valley.

Having visited nearly every top ski area North America has to offer, I'd be hard-pressed to choose an absolute favorite. The pomp and circumstance of Aspen, or the low-key grit of Telluride? The epic back bowls of Vail, or the convenience of Park City and Deer Valley? And what about the vastness of Whistler? But when the chips are down and all things are considered equal, it's the magic equilibrium Jackson Hole, Wyoming's challenging terrain, accessibility, rustic charm, local color, and fabulous food that makes the resort town a destination I'll return to again and again—especially in 2015. (It helps that while powder has been a rare occurrence elsewhere this season, Jackson Hole has seen over 250 inches of white gold to date.)

With Jackson Hole's 50th-anniversary celebration beginning in 2016, next year is shaping up to be even better. Visitors should look for a new chairlift that will open up coveted terrain in The Craggs area, a new on-mountain high-end dining experience, and the destination's participation in the [Mountain Collective](#) pass, which gives skiers and snowboarders access to 14 top independent resorts, including Aspen/Snowmass, Mammoth, Whistler, and Valle Nevado, Chile.

But if you're looking to catch some late-season powder—especially ahead of President's Day weekend—here's what to check out in Jackson Hole now:

Who to Know

Gavin Fine's [Fine Dining](#) mountain empire of exceptional eateries (Bin22, Rendezvous Bistro, The Kitchen, and The Q Roadhouse, to name a few) makes him the Danny Meyer of Teton County. His newest addition, [Bodega](#) in Teton Village, opened in December and offers an elevated approach to the corner store with gourmet groceries, a selection of wines typically impossible to get in this part of the world, craft beer from Fine's Roadhouse brewery, and take-and-bake pizzas from his Teton Village Italian staple, Il Villaggio Osteria. 3200 McCollister Dr.



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