



FACT SHEET



ABOUT

Hotel Colorado is located in downtown Glenwood Springs, Colorado, a destination world-renowned for its thermal waters. Just shy of its 130th birthday, the family-owned hotel still retains its blend of Victorian and Italian styling with mountain-town hospitality that's drawn visitors from around the world. Its central location is just steps away from Glenwood Hot Springs and within walking distance of shops, restaurants, attractions, trails for walking and biking, spas, whitewater rafting, galleries, museums and entertainment.



AMENITIES

Dining at the onsite Hotel Colorado Restaurant & Bar, which serves three meals a day, is complemented by coffee, tea and pastries at Legends Coffee & Gift Shop. The indoor lounge and restaurant offer alfresco service in the courtyard when weather permits.



DOG-FRIENDLY

Guests traveling with four-legged friends receive a warm welcome at Hotel Colorado. There's even a Doggy Destination Package for those who wish to really pamper their pooches. Hypoallergenic rooms are also available.



HISTORY

Hotel Colorado first opened its doors in 1893. The hotel has been used as a temporary White House, as a place of healing for the U.S. Navy during World War II, and a community focal point from its inception. Notable guests include Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft, the "Unsinkable" Molly Brown and the infamous "Diamond" Jack Alterie.



HOLIDAYS

Guests have enjoyed the extravagant holiday decorations at Hotel Colorado since it first opened its doors in 1893, the annual lighting ceremonies since 1989 and fireworks displays since 1998. The hotel is transformed with more than half a million lights and 60 decorated Christmas trees.



GROUPS & EVENTS

With 10,000 square feet of beautifully renovated meeting and banquet space, Hotel Colorado hosts groups of five to 250 for gatherings, corporate events and weddings.



HISTORIC RENOVATIONS

Phase II of a \$10 million renovation investment is complete, with floor-to-ceiling makeovers in all guest rooms, corridors and the main stairway. Phase I, which included all meeting and banquet rooms, was completed in 2018.

Hotel Colorado Restaurant & Bar

The Hotel Colorado Restaurant & Bar includes a beautiful dining room with an indoor waterfall and a cozy lounge with a full bar and comfortable seating. During the summer months, alfresco lunch, dinner and drinks are also served on the patio and veranda surrounded by shade trees, a fountain and lush gardens, with live music Fridays and Saturdays during the summer.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served year-round. Guests start their mornings with a full menu that includes fluffy griddle pancakes, French toast, bananas Foster crepes, huevos rancheros, corned buffalo hash, breakfast burritos and four eggs benedict options.

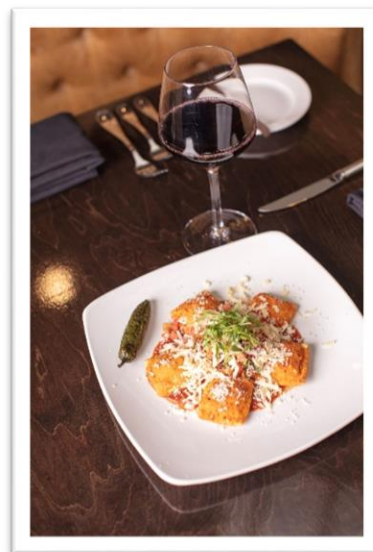
A new lunch and dinner menu with Colo-Mex flair launched in June 2024. Colo-Mex, which is short for Colorado Mexican, is the unique cuisine influenced by the area's Mexican, Spanish and Native American heritage and made with local ingredients. Starters include vegan silken tofu or chicken wings with a choice of sauces that includes sweet chili fish sauce, mango-habanero and peach-chipotle.

For the main course, new options are a Colo-Mex pasta alfredo sprinkled with Colo-Mex dust, USDA Prime ribeye and a roasted half chicken with habanero bacon jam and Amish potatoes au gratin. Diners should save room for dessert because the Colo-Mex brownie is rich and fudgy with Mexican hot chocolate flavors of cinnamon and a subtle hint of cayenne balanced with a silky chocolate sauce.

Executive Chef Doug Metzger added, "The quality of the ingredients is key, and sustainability is high on our list of priorities. Our meat is Aspen Ridge® Natural Angus beef that's raised under Certified Humane® conditions, with no antibiotics or added hormones. The trout and seasonal fruits and vegetables are sourced locally. The tuna is flown in fresh from Seattle. Skuna Bay salmon is craft-raised in low-density net pens in glacier-fed waters off the coast of Vancouver. And you can taste the care that's gone into these foods."

The indoor lounge and seasonal outdoor bar feature handcrafted cocktails and a curated selection of craft beer and wine to suit any palate. Daily happy hour specials of \$2 off any house cocktail, frozen cocktail, domestic beer or house wine are available from 4 to 6 p.m.

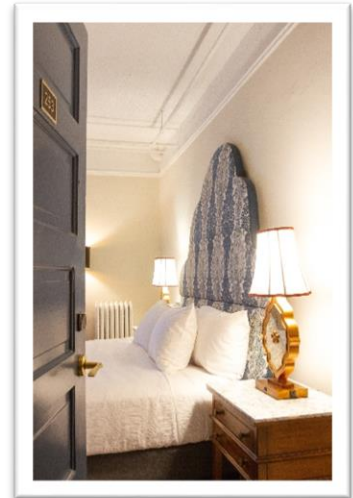
Legends Coffee & Gift Shop, located in the lobby, serves delicious hot and cold beverages alongside freshly baked pastries. Guests can pick up mementos and souvenirs there as well. During the holidays, it is transformed into a gingerbread house with 311 pounds of gingerbread and eight gallons of frosting.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Colorado turned the page on another chapter in its storied hospitality history with newly remodeled rooms that have a fresh look and feel, including signature suites, classic rooms, accessible rooms, and family and group options. Hotel Colorado is a dog-friendly hotel, so four-legged family members are welcome.

A comprehensive, floor-to-ceiling, \$8 million guest room renovation was completed in 2023. Upgrades include carpet, paint, window coverings, furniture, mattresses, linens, towels, televisions, telephones, ceiling fans, lighting, fixtures and artwork. All the furniture has been custom-made to match the period, and respect the heritage, of the hotel's original Italian villa design. Historical features were restored as well, including refinishing the wood in the grand stairway. Dozens of original brick fireplaces from 1893 were discovered during the process.

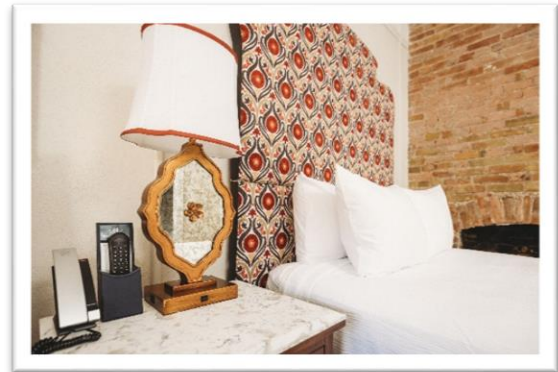


Comfort is King and Queen

Nothing says curl up and stay a while like a fit-for-royalty-sized bed that invites visitors to unwind. An oversized, upholstered headboard in a pattern that recalls Victorian-era elegance sets a sophisticated tone. Beds are dressed to the nines as well with 100 percent microfiber sheets, a plissé fabric microfiber that keeps guests warm in winter and cool in the summer. Pillows feature materials and a design to support a wide range of sleepers.

Extra Points for Style

While the bed and headboard draw the eye at first glance, supporting accessories throughout add both visual impact and practical convenience for hotel guests. Bedside tables are finished with thick slabs of white marble and topped with lighting that mirrors the shape of the headboards. The fixtures give a nod to the past and offer guests convenient access to tabletop outlets for electronic devices. In-room desks are fitted with sleek glass surfaces, task lighting and additional charging stations. Larger guest rooms, perfect for families, also include sleeper sofas with genuinely comfortable mattresses, as well as conversation areas styled with leather chairs in colors that match the room décor.



Details Make the Difference

Refined touches further elevate Hotel Colorado's refurbished guest rooms. Mornings start right with the help of Keurig coffee makers in each room. Flat-screen televisions are mounted to the walls to save space and give surfaces an uncluttered appeal. In the bathrooms, luxury bath and body amenities include Gilchrist & Soames soap, lotion, shampoo and conditioner. Invoking a spa-like feel, Turkish cotton bathrobes for lounging await guests. Even the smallest details have been considered, such as in-room waste receptacles and ice buckets that incorporate colors matching the room décor.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Groups

Attention to detail, exceptional service and experiences, and flexibility are the hallmarks of successful events and are all part of Hotel Colorado's commitment to its groups and meetings clients. From family reunions and holiday parties to weddings, banquets and corporate conferences, the industry-seasoned sales team and hotel staff help every step of the way, with onsite support from start to finish, to make sure everything goes smoothly. The professional catering staff develops the perfect menu for each event with choices covering a full range of flavors and options for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks.

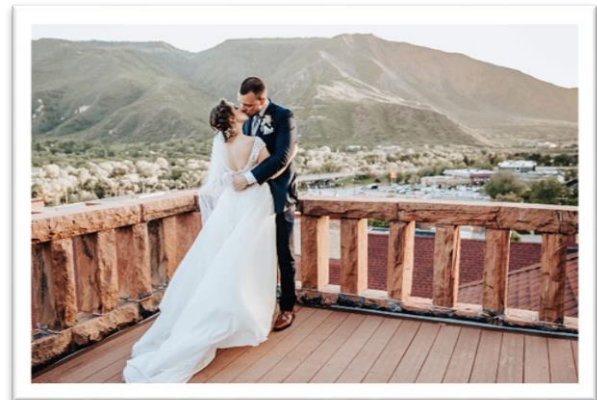
Spaces

This historic hotel features six spacious, well-appointed private meeting rooms for five to 250 people, with a total of 10,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space for larger meetings and breakout sessions. All meeting and banquet rooms were beautifully renovated in 2019, are equipped with Wi-Fi and are customizable.



Weddings

With 130 years' experience, Hotel Colorado has been helping couples celebrate this milestone for generations. It offers all-inclusive amenities and services for bridal and couples showers, rehearsal dinners, wedding ceremonies and receptions. The onsite certified wedding planner brings to life the vision and handles all of the details—from setting a budget to a create a custom package, finding and hiring vendors from a preferred list and setting a timetable, to day-of support—so that the happy couple can enjoy their big day. Outdoor spaces are available in addition to the six banquet rooms.



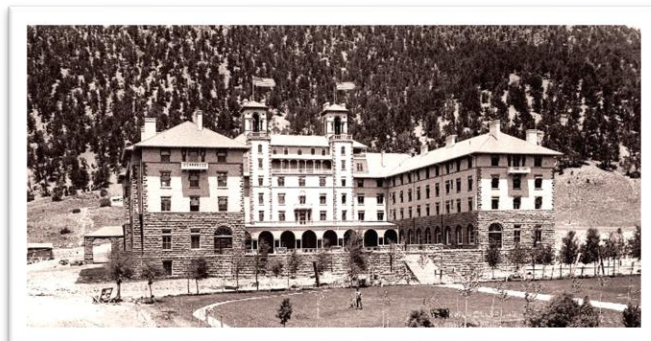
Destination Events

Glenwood Springs is well-known for its restorative mineral waters and Wild West history. It's located 160 miles west of Denver and less than 90 miles east of Grand Junction on I-70, midway between Aspen and Vail. Hotel Colorado is surrounded by mountain views and within walking distance of Glenwood Springs' downtown shopping and dining district and its most popular attractions. Best known for its hot springs, the city is also home to award-winning restaurants, breweries and tasting rooms; year-round, world-class recreational activities; and attractions and entertainment for all ages. This allows event attendees multiple options for down time or extending their stays.



When this historic hotel was built in 1893 by Walter Devereux—a silver baron and one of the early settlers of Glenwood Springs—the West was booming. The promise of a fortune built on gold and silver mining was tantalizing for thousands, and those with an adventurous spirit were moving west to explore a new way of living, far from the confines of bustling cities.

Glenwood Springs, notable for its healing hot springs, was brimming with potential as a destination for travelers and locals alike, and early settlers capitalized on this opportunity.



Devereux sought to attract the wealthy and elite to his “Grande Dame,” as Hotel Colorado was fondly called at the time. A 185-foot-tall fountain of water marked the center of the courtyard, and a European-style spa was an attractive draw for health-seekers during its early years. No expense was spared in the construction of the hotel, which included amenities and attractions like tennis courts, a Victorian garden, a bird sanctuary, and a stunning indoor waterfall. The hotel has been used as a temporary White House, as a place of healing for the U.S. Navy during the World War II years, and a community focal point from its inception. Ownership changed hands frequently over the years.



Hotel Colorado celebrated its 125th birthday in 2018, the same year that the Melville family purchased it from Providence Hospitality Partners. Renovations soon began, and the community gathered in August 2019 to celebrate improvements to and discoveries in six restored meeting and banquet rooms. Original brick fireplaces were uncovered in four of the rooms, Roosevelt, Garden, Taft and Devereux, during the restoration. Further renovations were put on hold during the pandemic.

In early 2022, the hotel team kicked off a comprehensive, floor-to-ceiling, \$8 million guest room renovation including carpet, paint, window coverings, furniture, mattresses, linens, towels, televisions, telephones, ceiling fans, lighting, fixtures and artwork. All the furniture has been custom-made to match the period, and respect the heritage, of the hotel’s original Italian villa design. Corridors and the main stairway are receiving makeovers, too.

There have been some exciting discoveries during the renovation. Sixteen fireplaces that date back to 1893, built with bricks made onsite, were found on the fourth floor alone. They were covered up, and the chimneys were filled with cement, to help create a sterile environment when the U.S. Navy commissioned the hotel for use as a hospital in 1943.

Today, Hotel Colorado is a beautiful step back in time, inviting guests to enjoy the cool mountain air, healing hot springs, exceptional service, and memories made with loved ones.

NAVAL HISTORY

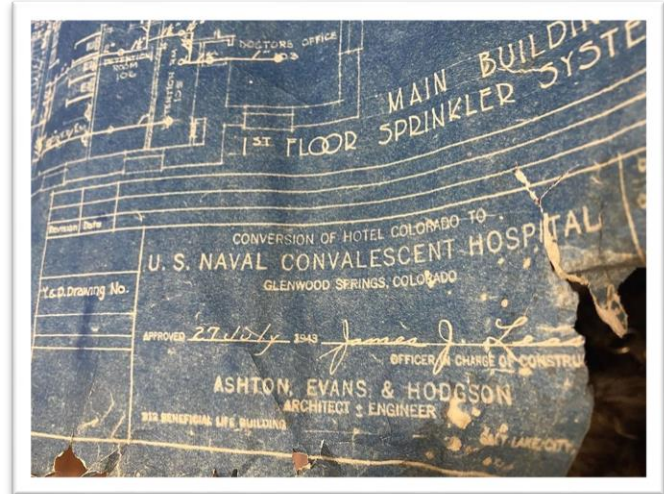
Despite the fact that Glenwood Springs is nearly a thousand miles from the nearest ocean, the hotel was leased to the United States Navy for use as a hospital during World War II. Named the U.S. Naval Convalescent Hospital, it was commissioned on July 5, 1943, and served Navy, Marine and Coast Guard personnel until the end of the war.

Transforming the luxuriously furnished and appointed hotel into a sanitary medical facility meant removing all of the furnishings and carpets. Ornate fireplaces were plastered over, and the mantle pieces ripped out. Marble sink tops, because they were too porous to be disinfected, and bathtubs were torn out, with sinks and china basins thrown out the windows.

The facility had beds for 500 patients. Ten medical officers, 15 staff officers, 12 nurses, 142 hospital corpsmen, three Waves, and two Red Cross Representatives resided there.

By the time it was decommissioned in 1946, more than 6,500 patients had passed through its doors. Original blueprints from that conversion show the transformation to a hospital with barracks, surgeries, dining halls and even a brig in the basement for unruly patients.

According to Bill Kight, Executive Director of the Glenwood Springs Historical Society, the hotel wasn't just a hospital. A quirk in naval law requires that any location where sailors are stationed also requires a naval prison known as a brig, and the Hotel Colorado was no exception. A room in the basement held eight prisoner cells, only five by seven feet. Most physical evidence of the brig is now gone, but recently discovered original blueprints from 1943, show the brig on the lower level. Some Glenwood Springs residents claim that the bars were in place as late as 1974.



NOTABLE VISITORS

President Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt

In 1905, Hotel Colorado became the temporary home for the President of the United States and his assistants during a three-week bear hunting expedition. Already a fan of the state of Colorado, Roosevelt stayed at the Hotel Colorado on multiple occasions.

On a three-week trip in January 1901, the then-Vice-President hunted mountain lion on the Keystone Ranch near Meeker. It was reported by his guide that Colonel Roosevelt hung over a cliff to shoot a wounded lion between the eyes. Roosevelt’s first trip to Glenwood Springs delighted him so much that he returned year after year.



According to legend, the irresistible toy—the teddy bear—originated at Hotel Colorado. To cheer Theodore Roosevelt after an unsuccessful day of hunting, Hotel Colorado maids presented him with a stuffed bear pieced together with scraps of fine material. Later, when he did bag a bear, his daughter Alyce admired it saying, “I will call it Teddy.” The term caught on and became the name for the world’s most popular toy, the Teddy Bear.

Diamond Jack Alterie

During the roaring '20s, Hotel Colorado became an attractive playground for Chicago gangsters such as the Verain Brothers, Bert and Jack (alias Diamond Jack Alterie). Armed with gun belts, Diamond Jack Alterie wore flashy diamonds in rings, shirt studs, watches, and belt buckles. Cloaked in bodyguards, these big spenders arrived at the Hotel Colorado via large Lincoln convertibles. He was known to entertain high-ranking mobsters from his hometown of Chicago including notorious crime kingpin Al Capone. The gangsters would meet at the Hotel Colorado, where a special front door awning was installed so that Diamond Jack, Al Capone and others could enter the hotel unnoticed by guests and the police.

The Unsinkable Molly Brown

Rising quickly to wealth as a result of her husband’s abundant gold strike, Molly Brown visited the Hotel Colorado to enjoy one of society’s favorite playgrounds. Today, one of the Hotel’s Tower Suites has been transformed into a living tribute to this dynamic woman of history. The Molly Brown Suite is magnificently appointed with family photos, memorabilia, and period furnishings.

President William Howard Taft

Many presidents have visited the Hotel Colorado. On September 23, 1909, President William Howard Taft arrived in his private train car. He was presented with wild raspberries and mountain trout for breakfast and shown the vapor baths and pool.

A parade of carriages carried Taft and his party to Hotel Colorado. When offered exclusive use of the Hot Springs pool, he declined saying, “I’ve found it’s much better for a man of my size not to bathe in public.”



HOLIDAYS

Guests have enjoyed and looked forward to the extravagant holiday decorations at Hotel Colorado since it first opened its doors in 1893 and to the annual lighting ceremony since 1989.

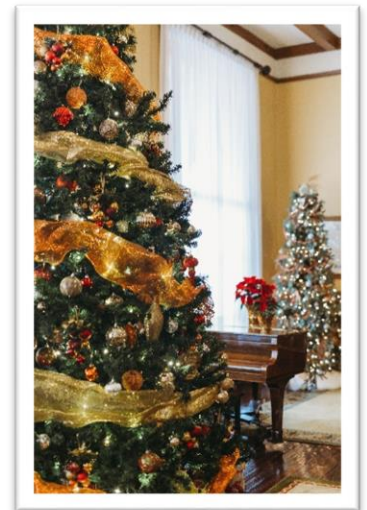
“While the hotel is always beautiful, a complete transformation takes place during the holidays,” Larry MacDonald, General Manager of Hotel Colorado, explained. “We start with more than half a million holiday lights throughout the hotel exterior, lobby, dining areas, banquet rooms and signature suites. There are more than 60 decorated Christmas trees and, of course, our signature, life-size, real gingerbread house that surrounds Legends Coffee & Gift Shop.”



The festivities officially begin with the Annual Thanksgiving Day Buffet. Hosted in the beautifully renovated Devereux and Colorado Ballrooms, the buffet features traditional Thanksgiving fare and a well-rounded selection of Chef’s specialties. Reservations are required and can be made at 970-928-3785 for this and all holiday events.



The following day, one of Glenwood Springs’ most beloved traditions—the Annual Hotel Colorado Lighting Ceremony—takes place on 6th Street in front of the hotel with additional holiday activities inside and in the courtyard. Onstage entertainment includes performances by local and regional musicians and dancers and a fire show, followed by the countdown with Santa for a grand fireworks display from the Hotel Colorado Bell Towers. Guests can visit with Santa, pose at the free photobooth, view a live ice carving performance in the Courtyard and gingerbread house display, and listen to the Symphony of the Valley. The schedule varies each year and can be found online leading up to the events.



The festivities continue into December with Breakfasts with Santa that typically includes a full breakfast buffet for parents and children to enjoy in the same room as Santa, who will be in his chair and available for photos during the allotted times. Photos will be taken through a photobooth with prints and digital copies available, which are included in the buffet price. Guests can round out the season with elegant Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Buffets.

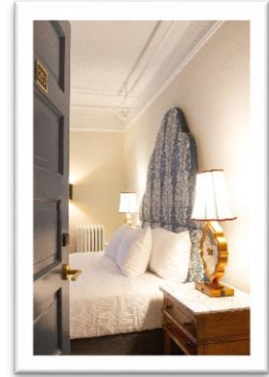
Historic Renovations

At Hotel Colorado, the “Grand Dame” of Glenwood Springs, a \$10 million renovation began shortly after the Melville family purchased it in 2018—the same year that the hotel celebrated its 125th birthday. Phase one of the restoration took place in the banquet and meeting rooms; further projects were put on hold during the pandemic. In 2023, the hotel team completed a comprehensive, floor-to-ceiling, \$8 million guest room renovation.

Upgrades include carpet, paint, window coverings, furniture, mattresses, linens, towels, televisions, telephones, ceiling fans, lighting, fixtures and artwork. All the furniture has been custom-made to match the period, and respect the heritage, of the hotel’s original Italian villa design. Corridors and the main stairway received makeovers, too, and a second guest elevator was added.

There have been some exciting discoveries during the renovation. Dozens of fireplaces that date back to 1893, built with bricks made onsite, were found.

They were covered up, and the chimneys were filled with cement, to help create a sterile environment when the U.S. Navy commissioned the hotel for use as a hospital in 1943.



Dogs Welcome

For those who consider their dogs part of the family, Hotel Colorado rolls out the welcome mats for humans and their pups. There are plenty of wide-open places to explore together, plus a dog park where they can mix and mingle with the other mutts, play a game of catch, and enjoy a dog-centric obstacle course.

As a hiking and biking destination, Glenwood’s network of paved and unpaved trails is in heavy use year-round. Keeping poochie tethered ensures his and everyone else’s safety. Most trails also have “doggie bags” at the trailhead to dispose of canine waste. For those times when you want to enjoy Glenwood’s geothermal and recreational amenities, dog-sitting services are available in town as well.



The Doggy Destination Package includes a large, plush dog bed and food and water bowls to use during stay, a Hotel Colorado dog toy to keep and tasty treats. Dogs are allowed everywhere on the property except in the dining areas. Hypoallergenic rooms are available as well.

Ghost Stories

Built in 1893, there have been many tales of otherworldly occurrences at Hotel Colorado. Given its history, it’s not surprising. The hotel has purportedly been the site of a murder, a fatal accident and a morgue. The abundance of strange phenomena has even attracted the attention of real life “ghost busters,” paranormal experts who have scientifically measured and monitored the hotel’s supernatural activity. [Read more](#). October visits can be timed to coincide with the Frontier Historical Society’s annual Ghost Walk at Linwood Cemetery, where Doc Holliday is laid to rest, usually held the last two weekends of the month.

Pampered pooch photo by Arianna Kitzberger.