

HOME DINING RECREATION TRAVEL COMMUNITY HEALTH STYLE

805 LIVING

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Celebrate
the SEASON



Braving the Elements for Booze



Need another diversion besides skiing and snowboarding? This season, **The Hotel Telluride** (thehoteltelluride.com), a 59-room Colorado resort, offers a “Snow Bike & Brew” package (from \$1,550; through March 31; bookable by calling 866-468-3501 or 970-369-1188). In addition to accommodations for three nights and breakfast for two daily, the package

includes a guided 3-mile bike tour of the Telluride valley on ride-anywhere snow bikes with super-inflated tires for traction on snow-packed trails. Riders stop first at the Telluride Brewing Company for a brewery tour and tasting of beers that use water from Rocky Mountain snowmelt. Then it’s back on the bikes for a visit to the Telluride Distilling Company to tour and taste handcrafted whiskey and vodka distilled on-site. (A shuttle returns participants to the hotel if they don’t want to bike back.)

The package also includes a five-course private dinner with wine pairings at The Hotel Telluride’s chef’s table, featuring options like house-made ricotta dumplings with wild boar ragú and braised beef short ribs with roasted vegetables.

The boutique chalet-style hotel is walking distance from shops and restaurants and three blocks from chair lift 7 (but a complimentary shuttle and ski valet are available). All rooms have balconies or decks and come with mini-fridges and a toaster or microwave. This winter, an easy direct flight takes guests

from LAX to Montrose Regional Airport, about 67 miles from the mountain resort, via American Airlines (aa.com) with departures daily from December 17 through January 4 and on Saturdays through April 2. Direct flights are also available via Allegiant Air (allegiantair.com) on Fridays and Mondays from December 18 through February 15 and on Thursdays and Mondays from February 16 through March 27. >



A winter package at The Hotel Telluride includes a guided tour on snow bikes with stops at nearby beverage-making facilities for beer, vodka, and whiskey tastings.

When at San Francisco's newly renovated Palace Hotel don't forget to look up: A gilded dome presides over the 8,000-square-foot Garden Court atrium, an arched glass roof provides views of the city skyline from the indoor pool, and high ceilings top the spacious guest rooms.



HOT TIP

As of December 1, fliers on **Hawaiian Airlines** (hawaiianairlines.com) first-class flights to California can enjoy Hawaiian-influenced food specialties from chef Lee Anne Wong (a season-one contestant on *Top Chef*). Look for items like a mahimahi poke omelet with *masago* aioli, guava-shoyu short ribs, and a *lilikoi* (passion fruit) crunch cake. Starting January 8, Hawaiian Airlines is offering three weekly direct flights from LAX to Kauai.

A One-of-a-Kind West Hollywood Experience

For the ultimate holiday gift, book the 11,000-square-foot Penthouse Inspired by Vivienne Westwood at **The London West Hollywood** (\$25,000 per night; thelondonwesthollywood.com). The penthouse, which opened in May, includes a salon, master and guest bedrooms, a full-size kitchen, a dining room with a table that seats 10, a media room, and a 5,000-square-foot private rooftop terrace.

The luxe space is outfitted with prints, upholstery, and wall hangings in some of Vivienne Westwood's iconic patterns from the past 30 years of her collections. A stay here also includes his and her gift bags and an hour of private shopping at the Vivienne Westwood store in West Hollywood (plus a discount on purchases).

The "Haute Holidays With Vivienne Westwood" package (\$45,000; through January 31) adds even more glam to the mix. The package includes a two-night stay in the penthouse, an original Vivienne Westwood gown to borrow for the stay, a two-hour personal photography session, and private car service in an Aston Martin, Bentley GT convertible, or Flying Spur sedan to jaunt around town. ♦



CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY

San Francisco's iconic **Palace Hotel** (sfpalace.com) finished a multimillion-dollar renovation this summer and is offering a number of holiday events and lodging packages, including tickets for ice skating and cable cars, free parking, and shopping discounts and gift cards (from \$250; sfpalace.com/holiday-packages). Several of the events take place in the gorgeous Garden Court, an 8,000-square-foot atrium with gilded Ionic columns, Austrian crystal chandeliers, and a Beaux Arts-style dome ceiling that contains 72,000 pieces of glass.

Try the signature Holiday High Tea with live harp music (Tuesdays through Saturdays through December 29; \$90 adults, \$60 children 5 to 12) or Santa Claus Tea (Mondays in December; \$95 adults, \$65 children), both of which include homemade scones and pastries plus delectable tea sandwiches, like roasted butternut squash with pomegranate and ricotta *salata* on walnut raisin rusk and Maine lobster and mustard greens on herb focaccia. The expansive Christmas Day brunch (\$145 adults, \$75 children) includes a wide variety of salads (such as wild rice duck confit salad with dried cherries), seafood (Bodega Bay

oyster shooters, sushi), breakfast items, dim sum dishes, carving stations, desserts, and a create-your-own Bloody Mary bar.

The 1875 hotel, rebuilt in 1909 after an earthquake and a fire, was San Francisco's first luxury hotel and the largest in the world at the time with 556 rooms. The Beaux Arts architecture and original details—cast-iron stairway railings, high ceilings, wide hallways, mahogany paneling—remain, but the furnishings, décor, and color schemes have been modernized. Guest rooms, with their cool blue and gray hues, are instantly relaxing and feel more like a city apartment than a hotel room. Guest room décor was inspired by time and travel, so look for suitcases as storage and vintage travel photos on the walls, in addition to nail-head trim detailing, leather-upholstered headboards, and bathrooms finished in subway tile.

While there, don't miss the indoor pool under a glass ceiling, where swimmers can float serenely while gazing up at the city skyline. And be sure to visit the hotel's Pied Piper Bar & Grill, which has a Maxfield Parrish original painting of the fairy tale trickster that was specially commissioned for the hotel's 1909 reopening.

BY MALLORY McCREARY