

VISIT DURANGO'S

# WINTER PHOTO GUIDE

Ready to get out and explore Durango, Colorado this year? There's no better time than the Winter season. Check out our Winter photo guide to get inspired for your next trip to Durango.



VISIT **DURANGO**  
COLORADO



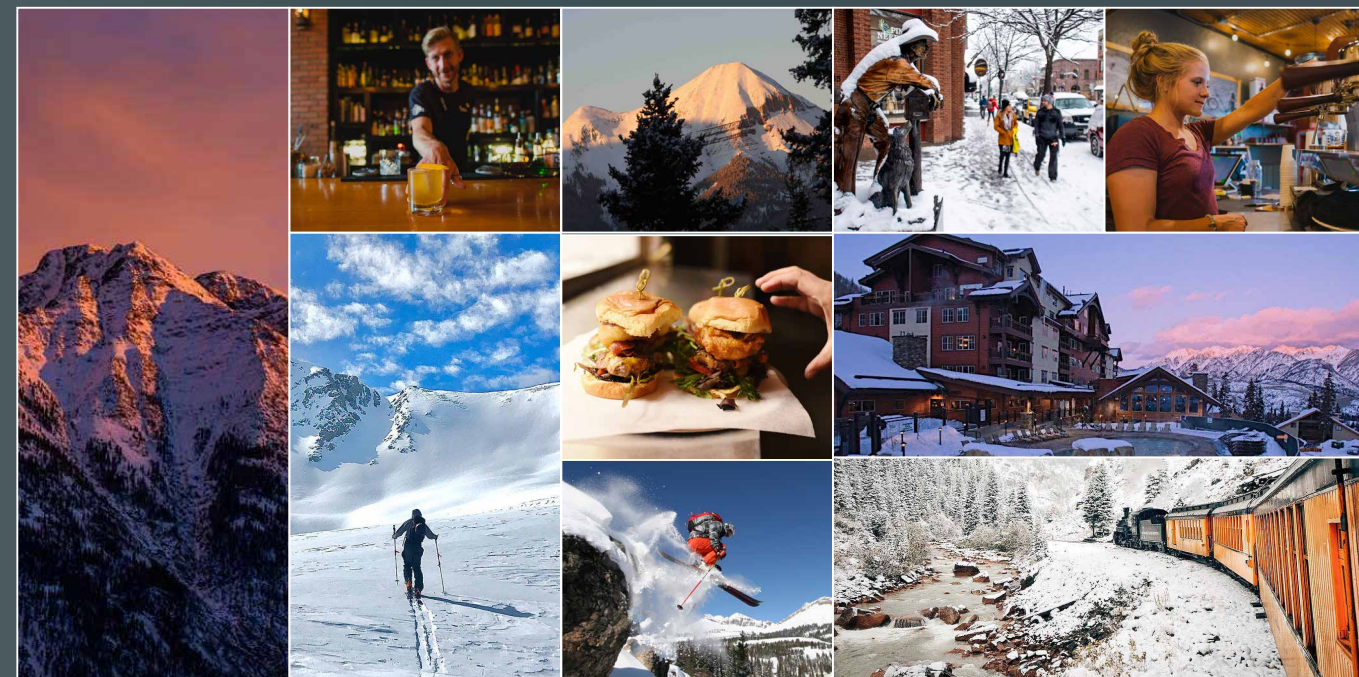
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# NO BETTER PLACE FOR WINTER

Never a dull day  
in Durango

## BACKCOUNTRY SKIING IN DURANGO

With hundreds of miles of skiable acres, the La Platas and San Juan Mountains are a staple of the skiing community and an iconic set of mountain ranges.



Neptune Creek, La Plata Canyon

*Photo by Visit Durango*



At Visit Durango, the official tourism organization of Durango, Colorado, we know the draw of our cozy little western mountain town- especially during the cold and snowy Winter months.

With tons of outdoor activities and an innovative food scene, Winter is an incredible time to experience everything that Durango has to offer. You'll never have a dull moment during your visit with so much to see and do.

To inspire your Winter visit to Durango, we've created this Winter Photo Guide with incredible photography from local photographers.

Come check out what it really means to have fun during Winter. Enjoy this visual guide of our town and all of its passion and adventure.

— The Team at Visit Durango



# INTO THE MOUNTAINS

## 1. A GREAT VIEW FROM YOUR BACKYARD

Nestled beneath craggy peaks of the San Juan Mountains, Molas Lake offers pristine views and opportunity for Winter fun.

 Molas Lake, Highway 550  
*Photo by Visit Durango*

1

2


3

4



## 2. LOOKING TO THE STARS

Twilight Peak is the highest peak in the West Needle Mountain Range in the San Juans. Its beauty and grandness can be seen from an overlook on Coal Bank Pass.

 Twilight Peak  
*Photo by Visit Durango*

10,000 ft.  
13,159 ft.



## 3. BIG MOUNTAINS, BIG VIEWS

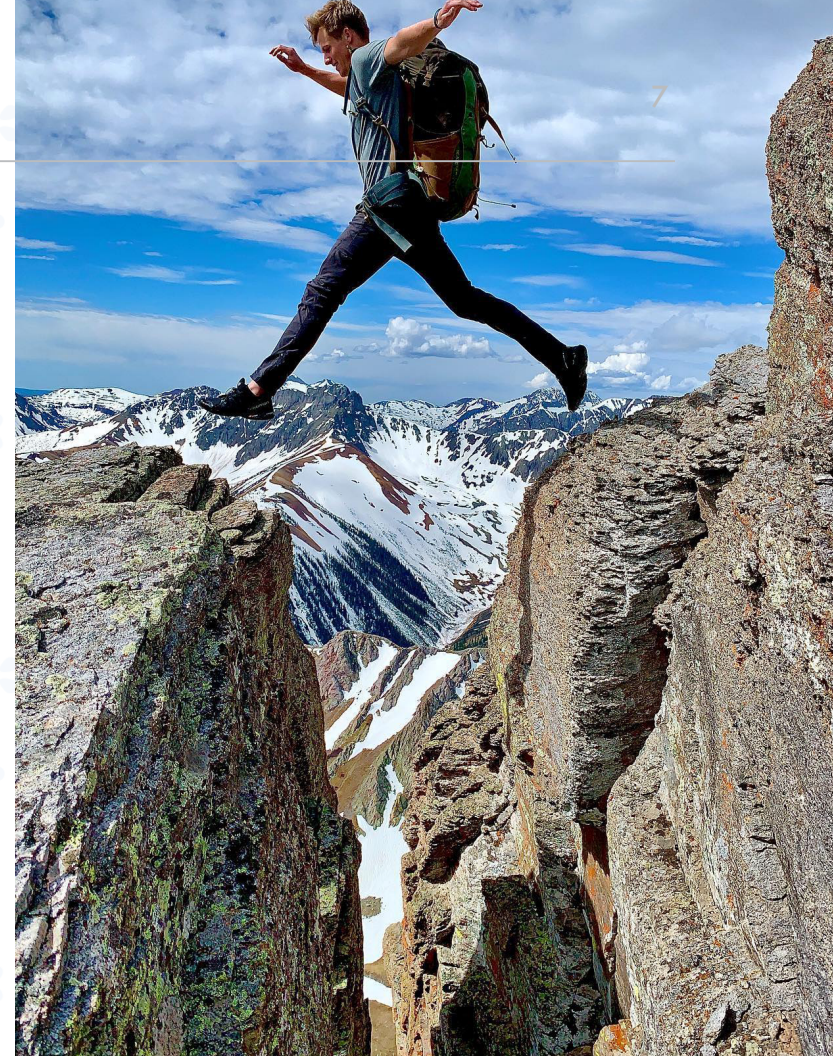
One of the most iconic peaks and summits in the area, Engineer Mountain features a massive rock glacier on its northern side, quite the site to behold.

 Engineer Mountain  
*Photo by Visit Durango*

## 4. ONE SMALL LEAP FOR MANKIND

The San Juan Mountains are comprised almost entirely of public land, over 2 million acres of it, offering many opportunities and accessibility to enjoy these amazing views.

 San Juan Mountains  
*Photo by Will Bodewes*




”The best view comes  
after the hardest climb.





### 1. CHUGGING THROUGH THE SNOW


Known as “The Train” by locals, the historic steam engine takes riders from Durango to Silverton via the route constructed in 1882.

 Needle Mountains, San Juan National Forest

*Photo by Yvonne Lashmett*

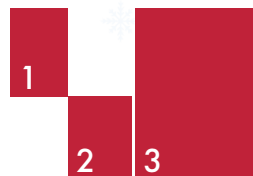
### 3. THROUGH MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS

This historic railroad, originally constructed to haul silver and gold out of the San Juans, punches through the mountains along the Animas River.

 Animas River Valley, San Juan National Forest


*Photo by Visit Durango*

6,500 ft.  
8,500 ft.

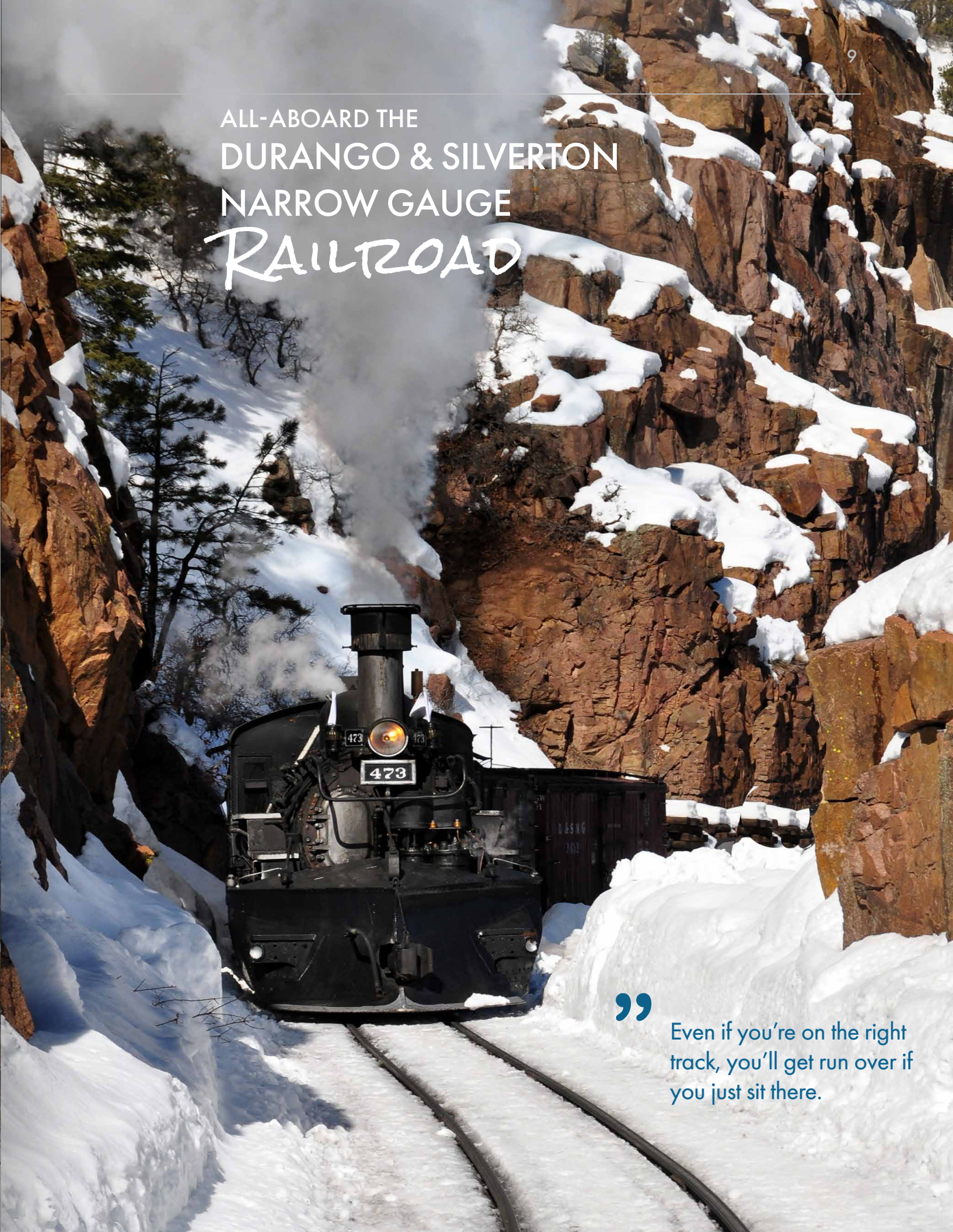


### 2. ROUNDING ANOTHER BEND

The Train hugs another curve of the breathtaking Animas River as it travels to Silverton.

 Animas River Valley, San Juan National Forest

*Photo by Yvonne Lashmett*



## ALL-ABOARD THE DURANGO & SILVERTON NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD

“ Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”



# A SCENIC DRIVE

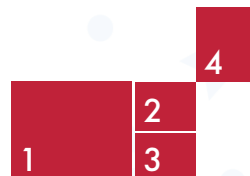
## 1. WATCH WHERE YOU DRIVE

The San Juan Skyway Scenic Byway is known for tight curves and passes that make even the most experienced drivers nervous! This photo was taken on the edge of the road.

 Coal Bank Pass, Highway 550

*Photo by Visit Durango*

” Sometimes the best therapy is a long drive and music.



## 4. ANOTHER WAY TO GET AROUND

If driving in the snow isn't your cup of hot chocolate, try snowmobiling instead. With hundreds of thousands of acres of skiable and sledable terrain, this is the best way to see our mountains.

 Molas Pass

*Photo by Sara Mascarenas*

8,000 ft.  
10,500 ft.

## 2. MORNING LIGHT ON THE MOUNTAINS

The San Juan Mountain Range offers some of the most picturesque sunrises and sunsets with huge peaks basking in warm light.

 Molas Pass

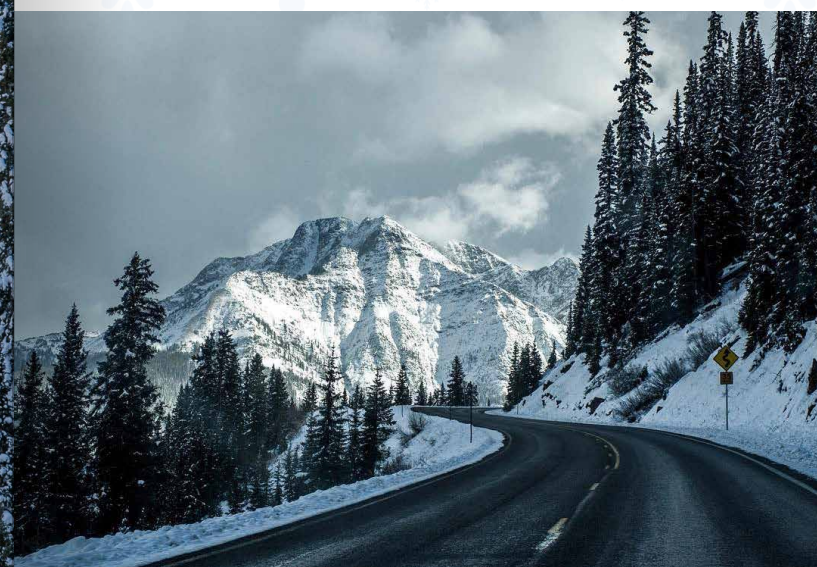
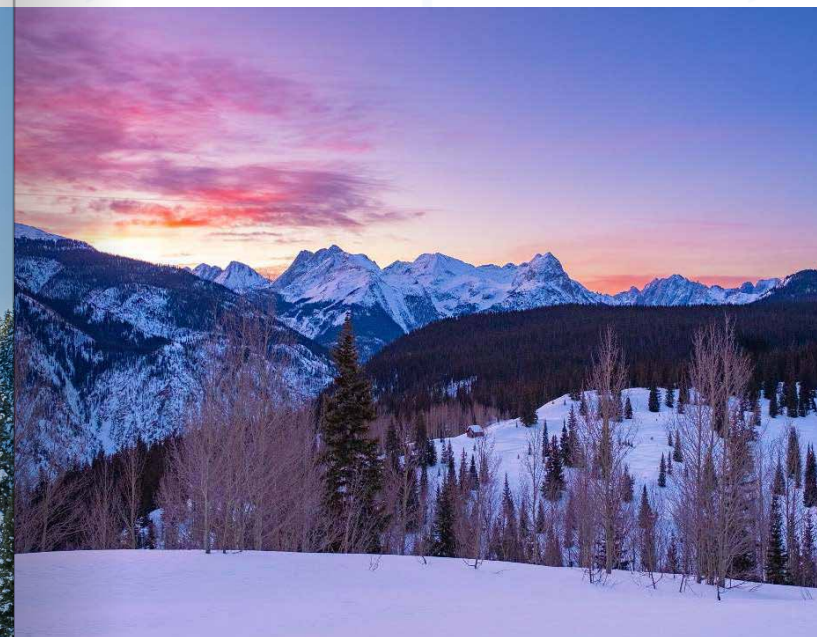
*Photo by Visit Durango*

## 3. WHITE SMOKE, DARK SKIES

With an average of 400 inches of snow a year, the San Juans are a sight to behold from one of the three year round maintained passes that give access to them.

 Coal Bank Pass, Highway 550

*Photo by Sean Kerlin*





# STROLL THROUGH A WINTER WONDERLAND

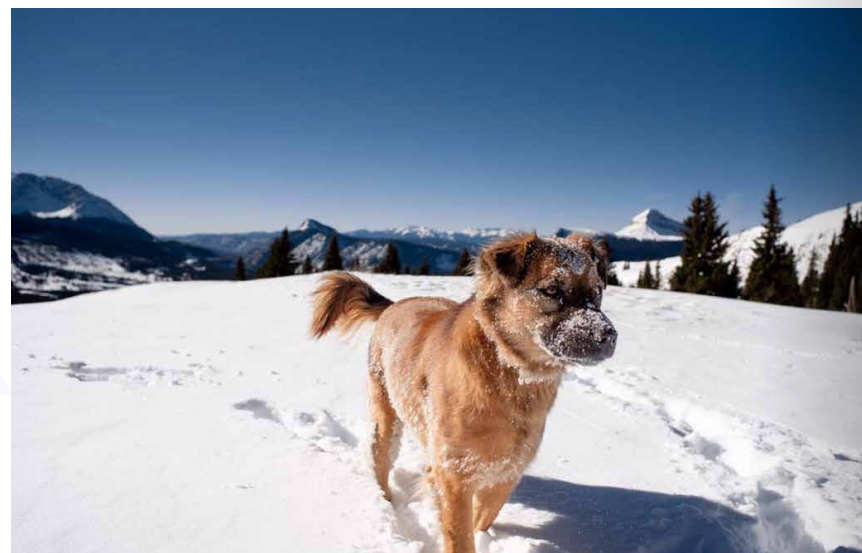
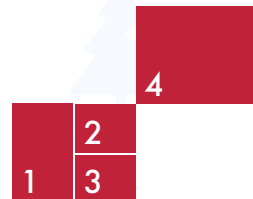
7,500 ft.  
11,200 ft.

## 1. AT THE FOOT OF ENGINEER MOUNTAIN

One of the best ways to see this 12,900+ foot peak is the famous "Tour de Engineer" trail that circles the entire mountain. Accessible by skis, snowboard, or snowshoes.

 Tour de Engineer Trail

*Photo by Tyler Sifrit*



## 2. DESCENDING INTO THE ASPENS

With the Colorado Trail accessible all along Molas Pass, it is the perfect spot for snowshoeing with your furry friends.

 Molas Pass

*Photo by Morgan Galvin*

## 4. AROUND THE LAKE


A perfect day for a perfect hike! Andrews Lake offers easy access for snowshoes, cross country skis, and hikers alike.

 Andrews Lake

*Photo by Visit Durango*

## 3. HIKING ABOVE TREELINE

The famous 486-mile Colorado Trail can be accessed at multiple trailheads around Durango. Be prepared and "know before you go" in this dangerous terrain.

 Colorado Trail near Little Molas Lake

*Photo by Visit Durango*

”After a day's walk,  
everything has twice its  
usual value.







## 1. PURGATORY RESORT

Equipped with more than 1,500 acres of skiable area and a summit elevation of 10,822', Purgatory is one of America's best resorts for family-filled fun.

 Purgatory Mountain Resort  
*Photo by Visit Durango*



8,700 ft.  
10,500 ft.

## 2. OFF-PISTE SKIING

Highway 550 brings powder-hounds through some of Colorado's most rugged and diverse ski terrain. Silverton Mountain, at the heart of the San Juans, boasts an annual snowfall of 400 inches.

 San Juan Mountains  
*Photo by Parker Shell*

” A bad day on the mountain always beats a good day at the office.

## 3. QUIET MOUNTAINS & FRESH TRACKS

With over 400 inches of annual snowfall and year round maintained road offering incredible backcountry skiing access, the San Juans are perfect to get fresh tracks.

 Coal Creek, Highway 550  
*Photo by Doug Jansen*



## 4. POST SKI DAY RELAXATION

After a long day of skiing, enjoy the alpine glow views of the San Juan Mountains to a heated outdoor pool or hot tub on the mountain.

 Purgatory Mountain Resort  
*Photo by Purgatory Resort*



# BIG MOUNTAINS, SMALL LINES: SKIING & SNOWBOARDING




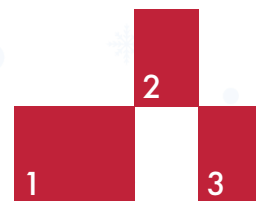
# GETTING CREATIVE: DURANGO'S ART SCENE

6,500 ft.  
6,500 ft.

## 1. A LOCAL GALLERY'S EXHIBIT


A mixed-medium exhibit. You can find over 10 galleries in Downtown Durango featuring local, regional, and international artists.

 Downtown Durango  
Photo by Claude Steelman



## 2. DURANGO PUBLIC ART

Durango is dotted with numerous displays of public art, many made by local artists, and reflect Durango's culture and heritage.

 Downtown Durango  
Photo by Claude Steelman



” Art heals both the creator and the viewer.

## 3. LOCAL ARTISANS AND ARTISTS

A hidden jewel in the arts and cultural world, over a dozen galleries carry treasures and works of museum-quality art represented with sculptures, pottery, baskets, fine art photography, and home furnishings.

 Downtown Durango  
Photo by Claude Steelman




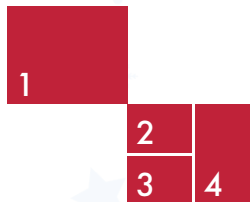




## 1. FUEL UP FOR YOUR WINTER ADVENTURES

If you are a coffee fanatic or just looking for a good cup of Joe, Durango has plenty of cafes and coffee shops to choose from. With friendly baristas and locally roasted brews, it's the perfect place to warm up this Winter.

 North Main Street, Durango  
*Photo by Dirt Road Travels*



” Nothing brings people together like good food.


# DURANGO'S EATS: RESTAURANTS

6,500 ft.  
6,500 ft.




## 2. GET YOUR PIZZA ON

With over 10 pizza restaurants in Durango, there's no shortage of places to enjoy a slice. From brick oven to New York-style, you won't get bored of our pizza scene!

 11th Street Station, Downtown Durango  
*Photo by Dirt Road Travels*


## 3. LATE NIGHT FOOD TRUCK GRUB

Located Downtown is the eclectic 11th Street Station with seven restaurants and food trucks. The heated outdoor seating is perfect for viewing the La Plata Mountains in the distance.

 Main Street, Downtown Durango  
*Photo by Dirt Road Travels*

## 4. VARIETY OF CHOICES

From breweries and quick-bites to gourmet dining, Durango has something for everyone! Many restaurants update their menus during Winter.

 Main Street, Downtown Durango  
*Photo by Dirt Road Travels*






# DRINK UP! BARS AND BREWETRIES

6,500 ft.  
6,500 ft.



## 1. WINTER-INSPIRED COCKTAILS

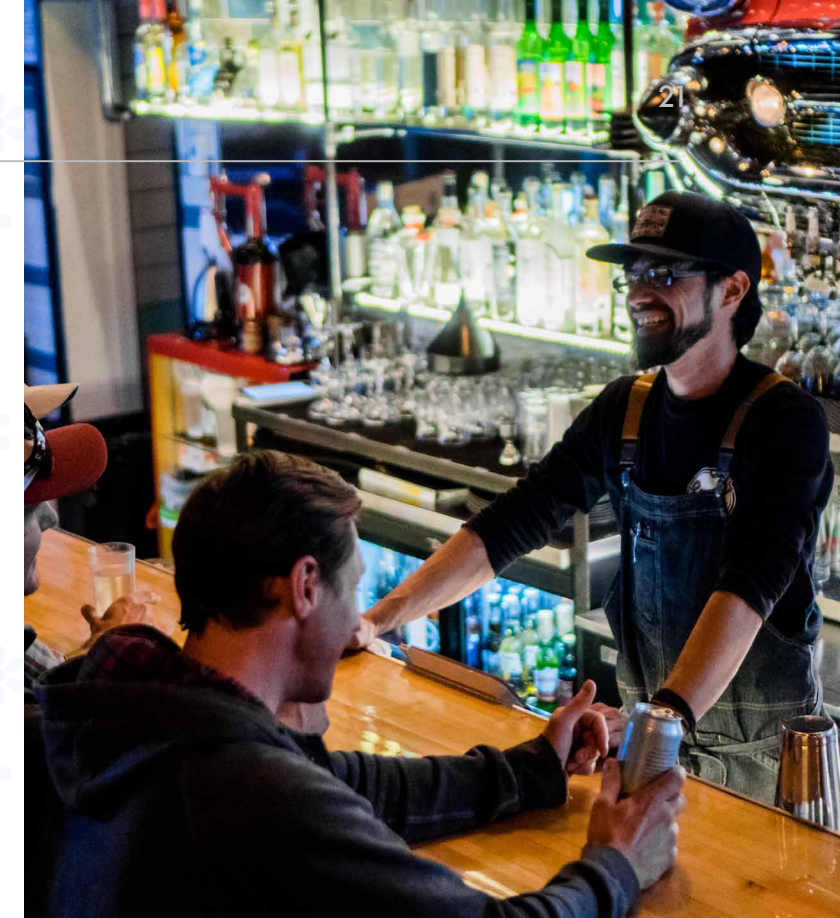
Winter brings new flavors and themes into Durango's bars. As cool weather sweeps over town, you'll keep warm with these Winter cocktails.

 Main Street, Downtown Durango  
Photo by Dirt Road Travels

## 4. WINTER CONTINUES TO BRING SMILES

Despite Winter being a quieter time around Durango, the bartenders and staff still enjoy customers and company at the counter.

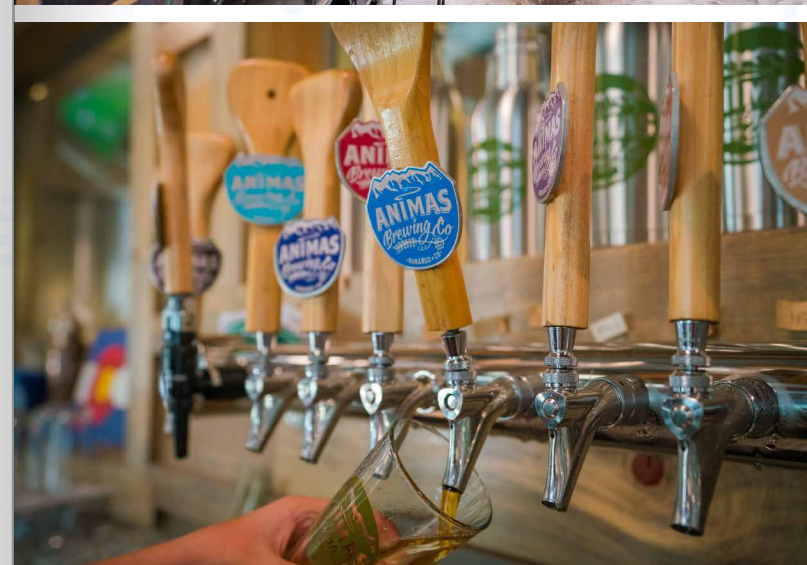
 North Main Street, Durango  
Photo by Visit Durango



## 2. APRÈS SKI PARADISE

If you're looking for the perfect end to the perfect day on the slopes, consider spending your après ski time at the Nugget Bar and Backcountry Gourmet food truck just a mile from Purgatory.

 Backcountry Gourmet, Highway 550 near Purgatory  
Photo by Visit Durango

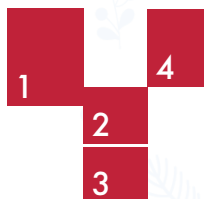


## 3. SEASONAL BEERS FROM THE BREWERIES

Winter is a favorite time of year for Durango's brewpubs and breweries. Our five microbreweries all brew up seasonal beers themed with Winter flavors.

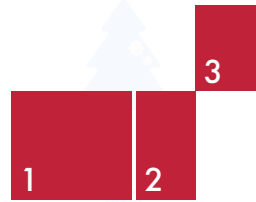
 Animas Brewing, Downtown Durango  
Photo by Dirt Road Travels

”I followed my heart and it led me to the bar.





# THE HEART OF IT ALL DOWNTOWN DURANGO



## 1. LOCAL AT ITS BEST

A brisk winter walk down Main boasts local businesses with friendly faces and local artwork.

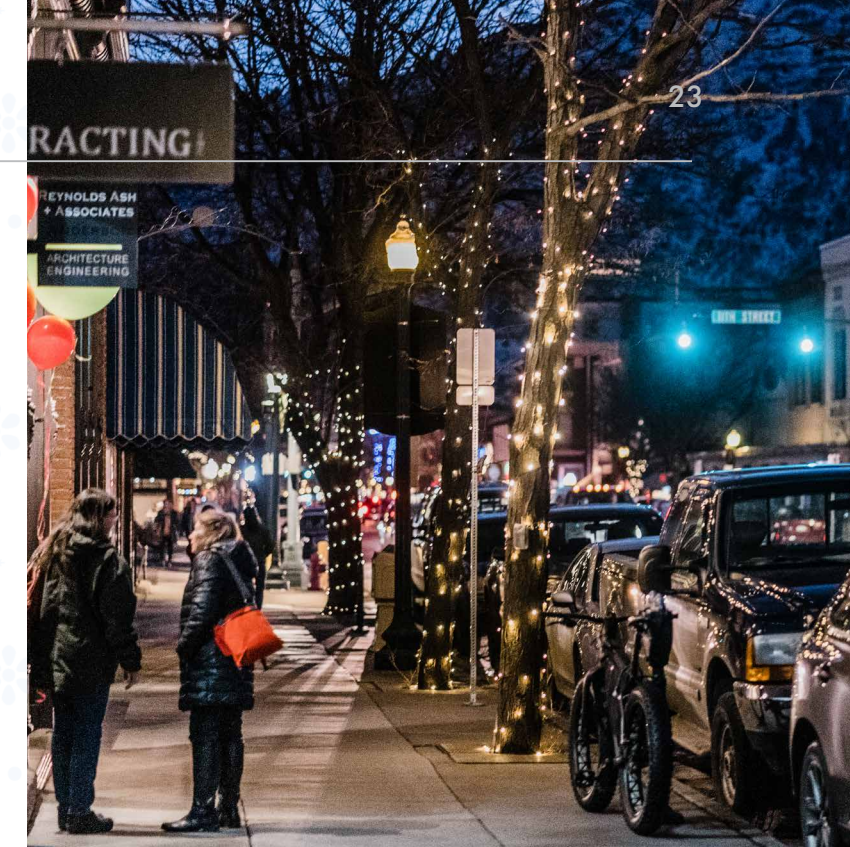
📍 Main Avenue, Downtown Durango  
Photo by Claude Steelman



## 3. THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

A great way to experience the holiday cheer of Durango! Enjoy the Winter lights and warm faces.

📍 Main Avenue, Downtown Durango  
Photo by Visit Durango



6,500 ft.  
6,500 ft.

## 2. MAIN AVENUE STROLL

Strolling down Main Street on a chilly Winter day and ending up in one of our local shops is one of the best things to do in Downtown Durango.

📍 Main Avenue, Downtown Durango  
Photo by Visit Durango



” Travel is the only thing you buy that makes you richer.





READY TO  
*EXPLORE?*

PLAN YOUR TRIP AT  
[DURANGO.ORG/PLAN](https://durango.org/plan)

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