

National Ski Club Newsflash

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NEW MEXICO EASES UP ON LIQUOR LAWS AT SKI RESORTS

New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez signed Bill 193 yesterday, which will allow consumption of alcoholic beverages in controlled access areas on the grounds of ski areas. The bill takes effect July 1. Currently, ski areas can have liquor licenses that allow alcohol to be served only in lodges or other buildings. The bill will give ski areas in the state the flexibility to serve alcohol at special outdoor events such as concerts, weddings, and festivals—not to mention kick up the après ski scene a notch or two.

MT. SHASTA SKI PARK IS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

The owners and operators of Mt. Shasta Ski Park, Mount Shasta California have decided to sell their ski area and bike park. They have employed Mike Krongel to represent them in the sale process. A page of information is available to those interested parties who execute a confidentiality/non-disclosure agreement with Wintun Development. If interested, please contact Mike Krongel to receive a copy of the CA/NDA for execution. Mt. Shasta Ski Park opened in December, 1985. With one notable exception, that being the non-winter of 2013 - 2014, the area has operated continuously and ski and bike operations gross up to \$5.365 Million, generate up to 167,000 visits and operate up to 137 days per season. Contact Mike Krongel @ (617) 816 7544 or email me @ krongel@mirusresortadvisors.com if interested.

GIANT UK CLUB'S IDEA TO RECRUIT STUDENT MEMBERS

Ski Club of Great Britain has secured 15,000 new student members after entering into an arrangement with group ski specialist Wasteland Ski.

The club is offering every student who books a holiday with Wasteland this winter free basic level membership, which was introduced for the first time this season. "We are trying to plan for the future, to plant seeds," said Ski Club head of partnerships Simon Henwood. Ski Club is also targeting more mature skiers with a new insurance policy, which provides a higher level of cover.

BLACKCOMB MOUNTAIN EXTENDS SKI SEASON

Whistler Blackcomb has decided to extend its ski season by an additional week. The closing date of Blackcomb Mountain to May 30, 2016. Whistler Mountain's last day of skiing will remain 17 April.

ANTELOPE BUTTE SKI AREA PURCHASED FOR \$209,000

A nonprofit foundation has purchased the Antelope Butte ski and snowboard mountain in Wyoming and plans to reopen for business next season. The Antelope Butte Foundation purchased the maintenance buildings, two chairlifts and base facilities for \$290,000 from the U.S. Forest Service, to which owned the resort after it was abandoned by previous owners. The Forest Service retains ownership of the land, and Antelope Butte will operate under a special use permit. "Summer 2017 will see some additional special events and also hope to have the lodge fully operational and the area available for cross-country mountain biking, hiking, and interpretive programs," Antelope Butte's Andrew Gast told SnoCountry.com. "We are currently looking at being open for lift-served skiing and riding in December 2017 and lift-served mountain biking possibly as early as summer 2018." The 250-acre mountain is 59 miles west of Sheridan and 35 miles east of Greybull in the Big Horn Mountains. Opened in the 1960s, it operated as a day-trip ski area with 1,000 vertical feet until 2004.

NEW LIFTS FOR 2016-2017 SKI SEASON

Jackson Hole has announced a new gondola for the 2016/2017 ski season. The new Doppelmayr-built Sweetwater Gondola will be located between the existing Bridger Gondola and Teewinot High Speed Quad and will have a mid-station approximately a third of the way up the mountain in the Solitude area, then continues up to terminate above the Casper Restaurant. It will feature eight-passenger cabins and will take 7.5 minutes to make its ascent with an hourly uplift capacity of 2,000 people. The gondola was chosen as the best type of lift to allow easy and safe uploading and downloading of kids for the resort's new children's teaching facility.

The Arizona Snowbowl will get its first high-speed 6-pack lift, The Grand Canyon Express, this summer.

Purgatory will have a two-way surface lift to transport guests between the 3 and 5 lifts and the new Legends high speed quad next ski season. After surpassing its 10-year average annual snowfall of inches, **Zermatt** is working on a new six-passenger high-speed chairlift and a new 3S gondola lift (set to become the world's highest). The new chairlift is set to open next winter, but it will be three years until the new gondola to Europe's highest ski lift served point, on the Matterhorn glacier paradise (Klein Matterhorn) opens for the 2018/2019 ski season. Because of the extreme conditions, teams can only work on the new lift for up to 100 days each spring/summer.

Austria's **Stubai Glacier** is normally open for skiing for up to 10 months each year, but will close for the season at the start of May to finish the huge new 58 million euro Eisgrat 3S Gondola. The lift replaces the ski area's famous Eisgrat cable car which has ceased operating after more than 40 years of service. The new lift is expected to open on 1st October, 2016.

China has announced plans to build what it has described as its highest ski resort so far, as part of the country's 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-20). The resort would be built in Tibet. Information published so far indicates the area would be near Tibet's capital Lhasa, one of the highest cities in the world at 11,450 feet. The Chinese Government is said to want to encourage Tibetan skiers to reach a standard of being able to represent China in the 2022 Winter Olympic Games due to be staged in the country. Tibet's average altitude is 14,764 feet and the country/region has more than a thousand peaks higher than 19,685 feet and five higher than 26,247 feet.

Niseko in Hokkaido, Japan, located north of the main island, will have two major new lifts next season in one of the biggest spends on new lift infrastructure in Japan for a generation. They will also be two new conveyor lifts. The new Village Express, a combination six person chairlift with eight passenger gondola cabins, will be the first of its kind in Japan and their new Upper Village pulsed gondola will be another first for Japan. Both lifts are part of YTL Hotels master plan vision for Niseko Village, which will also get a new 1.2 kilometer ski run down from the top station to the Village Express and the two beginner conveyor lifts added for the 2016-2017 ski season.



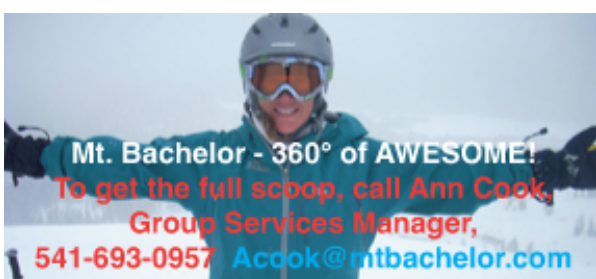
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Contact Andrew Kwang
at Vail Resorts
about any of our 11
world-class destinations
720-524-5073
akwang@vailresorts.com



Contact Ryan Dohnal at Vail Resorts about
any of our 11 world class destinations.
303-404-1839
Rdohnal@vailresorts.com



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wilbanks@ski-club.net

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P.O. Box 4704
Englewood, CO 80155