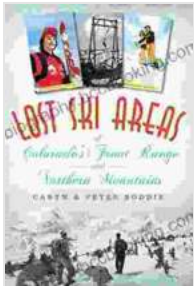


Lost Ski Areas Of Colorado Front Range And Northern Mountains



Lost Ski Areas of Colorado's Front Range and Northern Mountains by Caryn Boddie

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 14232 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Print length : 208 pages



Rediscovering the Forgotten Gems of Colorado's Ski Past

Nestled amidst the towering peaks and pristine landscapes of Colorado's Front Range and Northern Mountains lie the remnants of once-thriving ski areas that have faded into obscurity. These lost ski areas, with their captivating history and abandoned slopes, offer a glimpse into a bygone era of snowsports and mountain adventure.

Golden Peak: Denver's Lost Gem

Just a stone's throw from downtown Denver, Golden Peak was a popular ski destination for city dwellers seeking an escape into the mountains. The area opened in 1960 and boasted a modest vertical drop of 500 feet, along with a single chairlift. While it may have lacked the grandeur of larger resorts, Golden Peak held a special charm for local skiers and the nearby

community. After closing its doors in the late 1980s, Golden Peak remains a beloved landmark for those who remember its exhilarating slopes.



Monarch Mountain: A Ski History Icon

Monarch Mountain, located near Salida in southern Colorado, has a storied history that dates back to the early 1900s. The area first opened as a mining camp and later transformed into a ski resort in the 1930s. Monarch gained prominence as a training ground for Olympic skiers and hosted major competitions. Despite its rich legacy, Monarch closed its doors in 2002 due to financial challenges. Today, the abandoned slopes and historic buildings stand as silent testaments to the area's former glory.



Monarch Mountain: A Ski History Icon (Image: Abandoned Colorado)

Ptarmigan Peak: A Short-Lived Adventure

Ptarmigan Peak, nestled in the scenic Indian Peaks Wilderness, opened its slopes in 1976 and operated for just a few short years. Despite its stunning location and ample snowfall, the area struggled to gain a foothold in the competitive ski industry. Ptarmigan Peak closed in the early 1980s, leaving behind a collection of abandoned lifts and forgotten trails. The area now offers hiking and snowshoeing opportunities, allowing visitors to explore the remnants of this lost ski adventure.



Berthoud Pass: A Historic Crossroads

Berthoud Pass, located on the Continental Divide, served as a pivotal transportation route and a destination for winter recreation. In the early 1900s, Berthoud Pass became home to a small ski area that catered to local skiers and visitors. The area closed in the 1980s, but the lodge and other buildings remain as reminders of the pass's ski history. Today, Berthoud Pass offers cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and scenic views for travelers and adventurers alike.



Berthoud Pass: A Historic Crossroads (Image: Abandoned Colorado)

Explore the Lost Ski Areas

Uncovering the lost ski areas of Colorado's Front Range and Northern Mountains is a journey into the forgotten corners of ski history. Whether seeking adventure on forgotten slopes, exploring abandoned buildings, or

simply reminiscing about a bygone era, these lost ski areas offer a unique glimpse into Colorado's rich and diverse ski culture. Embrace the spirit of discovery, and immerse yourself in the captivating tales of these mountain gems.



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