

The T&C Traveler

Fearless skiers have long known about the excellent slopes in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, which feature some of the steepest terrain found anywhere. Over the past ten years, the area has established itself as one of the world's most sophisticated ski destinations, with accommodations to match. Amanresorts upped the ante in 1998, when the company opened **Amangani** (877-734-7333; amangani.com), with forty suites, views of the Teton Mountains and a staff-to-guest ratio of two to one.

In 2003, the sleek **Four Seasons** (800-295-5281; www.fourseasons.com) opened in Teton Village at the base of the slopes. The hotel has 124 rooms, including 18 suites, as well as 40 two- and three-bedroom condos (in which the likes of Uma Thurman and Queen Noor have stayed). It also houses three restaurants, a major art collection—Alberto Giacometti, Grant Wood—and a complex of cascading pools beside which servers clad in white fur hats deliver s'mores to children and liqueurs in chocolate "icicles" (cones) to hot-tubbing grown-ups. Just next door are the **Granite Ridge** town houses (800-329-9205; www.graniteridgetownhomes.com), perfect for families wanting to rent condominiums. These ski-in, ski-out homes have gourmet kitchens and sundecks.

Another slope-side option is the **Teton Club** (877-838-6677), a hotel-like private residence club with a hunting-and-fishing look. Some of its thirty-seven condominiums can be rented by nonmembers. Those who prefer the privacy and space of a home should check out the nearby 5,000-square-foot house, complete with concierge service, available to members of **Quintess**, a new international vacation-home club (800-550-0324; quintess.com).

In Teton Village, the best food is found at the Four Seasons' seductive **Westbank Grill** (307-732-5620), with its dim lights and roaring fires; at the **GameFish** restaurant (866-975-7625), in the leather-and-log ambiance of the Snake River Lodge; and at the Tyrolean-themed **Alpenrose** (307-733-3242). In the town of Jackson, twenty miles from the ski resort, are several new places serving global cuisine. Try the Mediterranean fare at **Cyprus** (307-733-8220), the pan-Asian dishes at **Koshu Wine Bar** (307-733-5283) and the Japanese specialties at **Nikai Sushi** (307-734-6490). The hottest social scene in town is at the **Rendezvous Bistro** (307-739-1100).

Below, from left: The lobby at the Four Seasons; Teton Village at night.

After a day of powder, skiers can reward themselves with hot-rocks massages or a soak under the waterfall in the indoor-outdoor pool at the Snake River Lodge's 17,000-square-foot **Avanyu Spa** (307-732-6090). Halfway between the slopes and the town is the **Wilderness Adventure Spa**

(800-443-6139; springcreek-ranch.com), a new addition to the Spring Creek Ranch offering an adventure du jour, such as dogsledding, followed by a seaweed wrap and meditation session.

Art lovers find time while off the slopes to take in the new **Jackson Hole Center for the Arts** (307-734-8956; www.jhcenterforthearts.org), which opened this past January.

This contemporary monolith, near Jackson's town square, contains an exhibition space and light-flooded studios where visitors can attend photography or painting classes.

Save some energy for Jackson Hole's renowned après-ski scene. CEOs, politicians and genuine spur-sporting cowboys can be seen rubbing shoulders at the **Mangy Moose Saloon** (307-733-4913) or at the **Million Dollar Cowboy Bar** (307-733-2207). If you go on a Thursday, you will even receive a free lesson in two-step or Western swing.

—AMANDA JONES

LETTER FROM JACKSON HOLE

