

**VENUE REPORT: 5 FABULOUS  
ART GALLERIES THAT'LL HAPPILY  
HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT**

**PLANNING PRIMER: TIPS FOR  
MAKING COMPLICATED SEATING  
ARRANGEMENTS A CINCH**

# colorado

## meetings + events

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# CLASSIC COLORADO

## TELLURIDE BURSTS WITH MOUNTAIN APPEAL



**+ OUR BIG IDEA ISSUE**  
GIFTS, ENTERTAINMENT, SOCIAL MEDIA,  
FASHION TIPS, UNIQUE VENUES,  
INVITATIONS AND MORE! (PG. 31)



Crested Butte Mountain Resort

# Conferencing in Colorado

## A SHOWCASE OF THE STATE'S TOP CONFERENCE CENTERS

BY SARAH BAUMANN

WHEN IT COMES TO PLANNING A CONVENTION, be it big or small, you want to choose an ideal location with the perfect amenities. Whether you're looking for stunning A/V capabilities, an exceedingly capable staff, easy access or creative caterers, there's a venue in Colorado that's a flawless fit for your event. From picturesque mountain resorts to downtown Denver destinations, these top Colorado conference centers offer stellar meeting spaces and a host of specialized services, with a few spectacular scenic vistas to boot.

### CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT

Nestled high in the Colorado Rockies is the historic town of Crested Butte. You can feel the vitality of this great Colorado ski town as you wander through the quaint, Victorian streets and its many restaurants, shops and galleries. The Crested Butte Mountain Conference Center provides over 34,000 square feet of meeting space for groups as large as 500 people. Three distinctive and unique destination properties include the contemporary and chic Elevation Hotel and Spa, the luxurious and rustic Lodge

at Mountaineer Square, and the classic Grand Lodge at Crested Butte.

When meetings conclude, there are many adventurous activities to choose from, including golf, hiking, biking, fly-fishing, skiing and snowboarding, while more relaxing activities can be found at the luxurious Elevation Spa or simply perusing Crested Butte's many galleries and shops.

### DENVER MERCHANDISE MART

The Denver Merchandise Mart offers over 275,000 square feet of space under one roof,

including the Plaza and adjacent Forum Meeting Rooms which provide the ideal set-up for conferences of 50 to 500 people. The space accommodates general sessions with a built-in stage and sound system, while the meeting rooms allow for multiple breakouts for up to 200 people per room. Their award-winning, in-house catering department can provide food and beverage.

The Mart is convenient and affordable for both planners and sponsors who wish to exhibit. The venue offers many in-house services, reducing the need for (and headache sur-

PHOTO COURTESY OF: CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT.

# renew your perspective



## THE WESTIN RIVERFRONT RESORT & SPA

AT BEAVER CREEK MOUNTAIN

Elevate your next meeting or event with a getaway to Vail Valley's new Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa at Beaver Creek Mountain. The Westin Riverfront features 4,200 square feet of unique meeting space with majestic floor-to-ceiling mountain views. At Colorado's first Silver LEED certified resort, attendees can rejuvenate with treatments at Spa Anjali and gourmet food at Restaurant Avondale.

- Enjoy 4,200 square feet of unique meeting space boasting floor-to-ceiling windows and breathtaking mountain views
- Recently named the #1 U.S. resort by the readers of Condé Nast Traveler
- Group rates starting as low as \$119 for residential suites
- Earn double Starpoints for free night awards and room upgrades through our Starwood Preferred Planner Points program

For more information or to make a reservation please call 1-866-949-1616 or visit [www.westinriverfrontbeavercreek.com](http://www.westinriverfrontbeavercreek.com).

**spg\***  
Preferred  
Guest

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mer, corporate gatherings at the Hyatt will be filled with myriad small touches that add up to perfection.

Park Hyatt's world-class conference center offers everything to host a successful meeting, including over 20,000 square feet of flexible indoor and outdoor function space and newly updated venues. Large windows offer spectacular views in both the Grand Ballroom and Junior Ballroom, including outdoor balconies and patios. Park Hyatt also offers a professional meeting planner staff, expert A/V technology, 190 spacious guestrooms, a complete business center, creative catering, and imaginative program options for team building and families and spouses.

### THE WESTIN RIVERFRONT RESORT & SPA AT BEAVER CREEK MOUNTAIN

Located on the banks of the Eagle River, The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa at Beaver Creek Mountain is Vail Valley's first and only "green" luxury resort, featuring 230 guest residences ranging from spacious studio suites to three-bedroom condominiums.

Connected to Beaver Creek Mountain by the Riverfront Express Gondola, The Westin Riverfront features 4,200 square feet of flexible indoor meeting space, all offering floor-to-ceiling windows with stunning views of Beaver Creek Mountain. The resort also has a kayak-themed executive boardroom and an additional 4,000 square feet of outdoor event space, including the Riverside Terrace and a 300-person Wedding Lawn.

Guests can rejuvenate with mountain-inspired treatments at Spa Anjali and rejoice in the locally sourced gourmet food prepared by Restaurant Avondale's award-winning culinary team. Other refreshing amenities at The Westin Riverfront include the Riverfront Club fitness center, a ski valet, a Westin Kids Club, an outdoor lap pool and three riverside hot tubs, as well as free wireless Internet and a full business center.

### SHERATON STEAMBOAT RESORT AND VILLAS

The conference center at the Sheraton Steamboat Resort is the largest in Northwest Colorado, offering flexible and convenient options for event planners. Should your conference call for many breakout sessions, the Sheraton can offer up to 16 meeting rooms

thanks to air-walls, with an adjacent ballroom. If you need a state-of-the-art boardroom, consider their Aspen room with a comfortable adjoining hospitality room. For the conference with exhibiting vendors, the windowed foyer area is an ideal option, providing non-stop exposure. The ballroom, boardroom, foyer and several breakout rooms all offer window options so attendees can enjoy the beautiful scenery. The resort also offers private restaurants, six outdoor patios, the Villa Gallery and an art gallery for use during special occasions.

Upon planning an event at the Sheraton Steamboat, you'll receive a key to the resort's registration booth, which can also be used as an office. As an added touch, they offer meeting planners a briefcase with some of the essential office items you might not have thought to travel with. If you want to be truly connected, they offer a Nextel phone to stay in communication with the banquet and convention service staff.

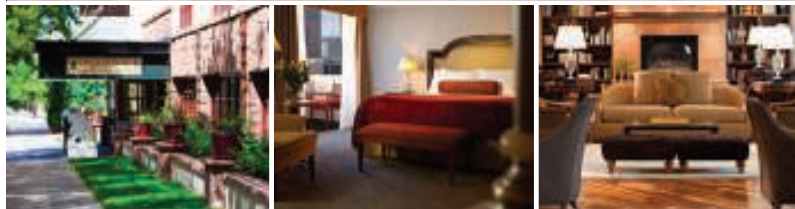
#### CHAFFEE COUNTY VISITOR'S BUREAU

With the small historic towns, spectacular mountain beauty and variety of venues, Chaffee County is the ultimate location to plan a conference, be it big or small. Chaffee County's majestic sky-sweeping mountains surround Mt. Princeton Hot Springs Hotel and Resort in Nathrop. Their glass-enclosed, all-weather pavilion can accommodate parties and groups up to 300, and is adjacent to accommodations ranging from newly remodeled hotel rooms to secluded cabins.

Historic downtown Salida is home to the beautifully remodeled SteamPlant Event Center. Meetings can enjoy the beautiful outdoor Riverside Plaza, the Grand Ballroom or the historic theatre and reception area.

If budget and size are at the top of your planning list, the Chaffee County Fairgrounds is the county's biggest public meeting and event facility. The 6,000-square-foot exhibit hall, meeting room with demonstration kitchen, commercial kitchen, 10,000-square-foot event center and two outdoor arenas make this facility home to more than just the county fair.

From bed and breakfasts to hotels with massive meeting rooms, Chaffee County is perfect for conventions of all sizes. ❖



# WELCOME TO WARWICK

## *Newly Renovated Meeting Space*

- Over 10,000 square feet of versatile conference space, all with natural lighting
- Millennium ballroom features spectacular views of Downtown Denver
- Eleven (11) rooms to accommodate groups from 8-250 attendees
- Onsite catering to satisfy your appetite, from simple plates to bountiful buffets
- Wi-Fi throughout the meeting area
- 219 renovated guest rooms to accommodate nearly 400 guests



WARWICK  
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