

As Aspen Announced A Longer Season, The Art-Filled Limelight Hotel Amps Up Its Presence

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The Limelight Hotel is the little sister of the famed Little Nell and places as much of an emphasis ... [+]
The Limelight Aspen

The mountains of the snow sports regions of the US have been getting dumped with unusually heavy amounts of snow this season, and as luck would have it Aspen has extended its spring skiing season dates as a result. Aspen Highlands will now stay open through April 16 and Aspen Mountain will now close on April 23.

Now, while it's hardly a secret *the* place to stay while in Aspen is The Little Nell—it's the only ski-in, ski-out hotel in Aspen with loads of perks—what *is* a secret is that The Little Nell has a little sister in town which has all the best distinctions of The Nell with a slightly different attitude, and it's called The Limelight Hotel Aspen.

One of the key features of The Limelight Aspen is that, like its big sister, there is a massive emphasis placed on art throughout the interior design. The hotel underwent a full redesign last year and as part of that, a museum-quality art collection was curated and installed by [Eaton Fine Art](#) in collaboration with [Paula Crown](#). From the guest rooms, to the hallways, to the walls of the massive, atrium-like communal lobby, the pieces are interwoven into the interior design and create a dramatic conversation around the hotel walls.



A piece by Robert Rauschenberg graces the Community Living Room of the Limelight hotel.

The Limelight Aspen

Walter Niedermayr, Robert Rauschenberg, Shephard Fairey, and Matthew Shlian are some of the well-known artists whose works grace the walls. These artists, amongst others, were chosen because of the purpose behind their works and do not shy away from making statements through their art which include themes of inclusivity and environmental protection.

While art is the anchor at both these properties, that's not where the similarities end.

Both have a fleet of complimentary private cars which shuttle hotel guests back and forth through various points in town, to the other mountains of Aspen, or to the airport. They both also put adventure first and both hotel's concierges are trained to create exciting and personalized itineraries which could include anything from horseback riding to backcountry powder tours. Even frisbee golf isn't off the table. Of course, getting access to Aspen's top hotspots for dinner and nightlife is de rigueur for the concierges of both The Little Nell and The Limelight.

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The best perk is that both hotels offer First Tracks for hotel guests, which means guests can ride the mountain one hour before it officially opens with a limited group of other guests and mountain guides. Which leads us to location, as both properties are prime Aspen real estate—meaning, the lifts are within walking distance. (*Pro tip: The Limelight's closest lift is the 1A single chair lift, the first lift ever in the*

mountain, and is one of two lifts in the country listed under the National Register of Historic Places. Few know about it and local Aspenites venerate it, but ride it soon as the area around that lift is having major development and may be gone after next season.)



Eaton Fine Arts along with Paula Crown ensure pieces such as this one by Shepard Fairey bring a ... [+]
The Limelight Aspen

While the general values of the sister hotels are the same, The Limelight begins to show its own personality as the more contemporary, communal and family-oriented hotel. The lobby itself is called the Community Living room and its open plan creates a the vibe of an inclusive, social atmosphere which includes a secluded kid's area in the back. The fireplace is always roaring and most nights there's live music or a DJ, and that's just on the evenings. The mornings start with the same community vibe at the Limelight's famed complimentary buffet breakfast which is robust in its offerings and created to fuel its guests for the day. The Limelight also has several rooms equipped with full state of the art kitchens, while the rest have small kitchenettes with all the necessary items such as a microwave, custom SMEG refrigerators, cutlery and dishes to keep weary skiers and snowboarders content.

The Limelight's vibe has been so popular that it's expanded into Sun Valley, Idaho and more recently announced a residence project which includes a private club at Mammoth Mountain in California, the first new hospitality addition for the latter in over 20 years.



Pieces by Walter Niedermayr hang in The Limelight's Community Living Room.
The Limelight Aspen

When it comes to Aspen, though, there's no definitive answer if it's the number one ski resort in the United States, but there's no question Aspen often falls somewhere in the top three of any given list. It's a town filled with the world-renowned restaurants, a calendar of performances by famous musical acts, hosts one of the most vibrant après scenes in America, and is home to every kind of luxury shopping one would want.

At the same time, it's a town which places a heavy emphasis on local culture including having its own opera house and public art installations by respected artists each season. It also hosts the [Aspen Ideas Festival](#) and [Aspen Summer Words Writing Conference](#), and it's a walkable village with something for everyone.

At the end of the day, though, it's Aspen's 4 massive mountains—each with its own identity of terrain—that equal miles upon miles of trails and tracks for endless amounts of adventure that makes Aspen a peak performer.



A guest room at The Limelight Aspen decorated with a piece by Matthew Shlian.
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