

Destination Guide Utah

By Sarah J.F. Braley

New on the Scene

LAP OF LUXURY. The 175-room Dakota Mountain Lodge opened in Park City last July. This first new-build from Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts features 1,500

now open



Elegant welcome: The Dakota Lodge lobby

Paving the Way

A \$15 million bond has been approved to make Park City more friendly for bikes and pedestrians.

square feet of meeting space and a 16,000-square-foot GoldenDoor Spa. (435)

647-5500; dakotamountainlodge.com

RAISING A GLASS. Last July, the archaic rules on serving alcohol in Utah relaxed considerably, to the delight of hotel and restaurant owners statewide. Both membership and membership-fee requirements for dining and social establishments that serve liquor have been eliminated, and glass partitions to shield customers from where alcohol was poured no longer are required. The IDs of patrons under 35 now are ver-

fied using a scanner; the data is stored on-site for a week. In related news in Salt Lake City, a quirky local law that limited the number of bars to just two per city block recently was struck down. City officials now hope developers will begin to create entertainment districts and more nightlife venues. This is good news for City Creek, a \$2 billion mixed-use redevelopment in the center of the city, scheduled for completion in 2012.

did you know?

More for Meetings



THE 850-ROOM Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City has added three meeting rooms, bringing the property's total meeting space to 25,613 square feet. Also, the hotel's existing 13 function rooms were renovated, adding lush touches such as damask fabrics and Laudarte Italian chandeliers. (800) 281-7899; littleamerica.com

Park City

Local Update:

- The 181-room St. Regis Deer Crest Resort, a ski-in, ski-out property at Deer Valley Resort near Park City, debuted last November. The hotel features the Remède Spa and Jean-Georges Vongerichten's J&G Grill. The 7,657 square feet of function space includes a 2,800-square-foot ballroom.
- At the 180-room Stein Eriksen Lodge, a remodeling of The Spa has taken it from 4,300 square feet to more than 20,000 square feet.
- Opening later this year at Deer Valley Resort is the 178-room Montage Resort. The property will feature a 35,000-square-foot spa and 15,000 square feet of meeting space.



Meeting Hotels: Among the major meeting properties found in this city are the 450-unit Westgate Park City Resort & Spa, 350-room Canyons Grand Summit Hotel, 227-room The Lodges at Deer Valley, 199-room Park City Marriott, 185-room Newpark Resort, 181-room St. Regis Deer Crest Resort, 181-room Yarrow Resort Hotel & Conference Center, 180-room Stein Eriksen Lodge at Deer Valley and 175-room Dakota Mountain Lodge.

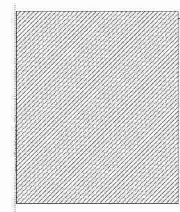


Airport Transit: Salt Lake City International Airport, about a 35-minute drive from downtown Park City. Transfer to Park City, \$85



Taxes: Room tax, 3%; sales tax, 7.45%; total tax on hotel rooms, 10.45%. At the new St. Regis Deer Crest, which is in Wasatch County, room tax is 11.6%.

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Group Venue: The new **High West Distillery** bottles its own specialty vodkas, made from oats, and sipping ryes. The facility holds up to 180 for an event; separate rooms accommodate

from 12 to 80 people. (435) 649-8300; highestdistillery.com



CVB Services: **Park City** Convention & Visitors Bureau, (800) 453-1360; parkcitymeetings.com

Salt Lake City

Local Update:

- On track to open in 2012 is the six-mile, \$350 million TRAX light-rail extension that will connect downtown to Salt Lake City International Airport.
- Some smaller hotels opened in the Salt Lake Valley in 2009, including the 143-room Springhill Suites and the 123-room Hyatt Place at the airport, plus the 128-room Gateway Hyatt Place downtown.



Meeting Hotels: Close to the convention center are the 515-room Marriott Salt Lake City Downtown, 499-room Hilton Salt Lake City Center and 381-room Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown. Nearby are the 850-room Little America Hotel, 775-room Grand America Hotel, 362-room Sheraton City Centre Hotel Salt Lake City and 359-room Marriott Salt Lake City Center.



Convention Center: Salt Palace Convention Center; exhibit space, 515,000 square feet; number of meeting rooms, 67; (801) 534-4777; saltpalace.com



Airport Transit: Salt Lake City International Airport, six miles from downtown. Transfer cost by taxi, \$15



Taxes: Room tax, 6.85%; sales tax, 5.75%; total tax on hotel rooms, 12.67%



Group Venue: Groups of 2,100 can take over the **Discovery Gardens** children's museum; spaces include a 150-seat theater. (801) 456-5437; discoverygateway.org



CVB Services: Salt Lake Convention & Visitors Bureau, (801) 534-4900 or (800) 541-4955; visitsaltlake.com ■