



## The Best Things to Do in and Around Park City in the Fall

### Stay at Black Rock Mountain Resort

We've been visiting Park City for years and have stayed at quite a few different resorts. We recently stayed at [Black Rock Mountain Resort](#) and it is our new favorite place to stay in Park City!

We stayed in the St. Moritz Penthouse Suite, and it is the dreamiest space, with floor-to-ceiling windows and fireplaces in every bedroom for cozy fall nights.

The spacious modern suite sleeps up to 10 people with a full kitchen, a large loft, a game room, and a sprawling outdoor deck with a fire pit.

The suite is large enough that you can split the cost with a few families, couples, or friends for an unforgettable weekend getaway.

Black Rock Mountain Resort is a condo hotel that fits every family's size and budget. From cozy guest rooms that sleep up to 4 people, to luxury suites that sleep up to 14.

The amenities at the resort include a heated outdoor pool and hot tub as well as a sauna and steam room. It's the perfect spot to relax and unwind after spending a day outdoors.

If you're traveling with kids, they'll especially love the large game room with ping pong tables, pool tables, board games, and 7 different televisions to watch sports games.

Switchback Sports is located at the resort and offers seasonal bike and ski rentals for year-round fun. It's so convenient to grab your equipment and go, without dealing with the hassle and lines at the ski resort.

The suites all include a fully-equipped kitchen so you can save money by cooking your own meals. However, I highly recommend eating at least one meal at the resort's Overlook Restaurant.

We have ordered dishes from their breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, and dessert menu and everything we ate was phenomenal!

The food is delicious, the presentation is gorgeous, the portions are generous, and the price is reasonable for what you get.

We also love staying at this resort due to its location. It is situated between Park City and Heber City with easy access to ski resorts, downtown Park City, hiking trails, and other local attractions and activities. The resort even offers a complimentary shuttle bus to Park City and Deer Valley Resorts.

The resort opened in 2021 and is continuing to expand with an indoor ice hockey rink currently under construction. In addition to the 15,000-seat ice rink, the venue will also include an event space, a 10,000-square-foot fitness center, an arcade, and restaurants. We're excited to come back and check out the new additions!

## Ride the Heber Valley Railroad

The Heber Valley Railroad, nicknamed the "Heber Creeper", is a beloved historic attraction about 25 minutes from Park City. The railroad was completed in 1899 and served as a passenger and freight line between Provo and Heber.

Today, guests can climb aboard a vintage 100-year-old train car to experience the nostalgia of what train travel was like over a century ago.

A variety of [train rides](#) are offered throughout the year, including special holiday-themed rides like The Pumpkin Train and The Polar Express.

We booked tickets for the Lakeside Limited, a narrated scenic 2-hour ride that follows along the shore of Deer Creek Reservoir.

This train ride is especially beautiful in the fall with pops of colorful leaves and a dusting of snow on the surrounding mountains.

If you're traveling with kids, they'll love the Pumpkin Train which includes on-board entertainment, pumpkin cookies, and you'll even be able to pick out your own pumpkin to take home.

## Hike the Bloods Lake Trail

There are several hiking trails in the area that are especially beautiful in the fall.

Bloods Lake Trail is a 2.8-mile out-and-back trail in the Bonanza Flat area, about 15 minutes from Park City. The trail is rated moderate with an elevation gain of 462 feet.

The trail leads through groves of golden aspens and pine trees before reaching Bloods Lake.

The trail is fairly flat with most of the elevation gained in the final ascent to the lake. The lake is beautiful surrounded by pine trees reflected in the water.

This is a very popular trail, especially in the fall, and parking is limited. Be sure to arrive early in the morning or later in the afternoon.

The best time to do this hike is in late September or the beginning of October when the fall leaves are at peak.

We hiked this trail in mid-October after the first snowfall of the season. The fall leaves were already gone and the snowy trail was slippery and muddy, but one advantage was that the trail wasn't very crowded. If you do come later in the season, be prepared with hiking poles and spikes.

Other popular hiking trails in the area include the Bonanza Loop Trail, Donut Falls Trail, Cascade Springs, and the Secret Lake Trail.

## Drive the Alpine Loop

The Alpine Loop is one of the most popular scenic fall drives, and for good reason!

The 20-mile paved road winds through colorful golden aspens, red maple and oaks, and forests of evergreens and mixed conifers.

The drive offers breathtaking views of Mount Timpanogos and the surrounding mountain peaks as you make your way from Provo Canyon to American Fork Canyon.

While in Provo Canyon, I also recommend driving the 2-mile Kyhv Peak Road (formerly Squaw Peak) to a beautiful lookout point over Utah Valley.

We also love the Stewart Falls Trail and riding bikes along the Provo River Parkway Trail to Bridal Veil Falls. For more information and recommendations, see our guide [15 Fun Things to Do in Utah County](#).

The beginning of the Alpine Loop road is about 40 minutes from Park City. Other scenic drives closer to Park City include Guardsman Pass, Big Cottonwood Canyon, Millcreek Canyon, and the drive from Kamas to Mirror Lake.

## Visit the Town of Midway

Midway is a charming Swiss-inspired town about 25 minutes from Park City.

The town was settled in the late 1800s by Swiss immigrants who felt right at home in the verdant green valley surrounded by snowcapped mountains.

You can still find evidence of Swiss architecture throughout the town of Midway, which has been dubbed the "Little Switzerland of Utah". After [visiting Switzerland](#) this past summer, I can definitely see why it has earned this nickname!

Fall is a great time to visit where you can enjoy a meal in a cozy alpenglobe at Café Galleria or pick up holiday gifts from the local shops.

We also love visiting the Homestead Crater in Midway. This unique geothermal pool is located inside of a 55-foot natural limestone dome. The water temperature is 95 degrees year-round, and it is the perfect spot to warm up on a chilly fall day.

For more information and recommendations, see our guide [6 of the Best Hot Springs in Utah](#).

## Visit the Shops on Park City's Historic Main Street

Park City wasn't always an upscale resort town. Its early roots began in the 1860s as a prosperous silver mining town.

Today, the historic Main Street is lined with restored Victorian-era buildings that have been converted into charming shops, restaurants, and galleries.

You'll find everything from big retailers like Lululemon to small local boutiques like Olive & Tweed.

One of our favorite shops is the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory for their homemade fudge, chocolates, and gourmet caramel apples. We also enjoy browsing the books at Dolly's Book Store, a cute little independent bookshop located in the same building.

It's worth popping into the Park City Museum to get an overview of the town's history. The Egyptian Theater is also a historic landmark and the home of the first Sundance Film Festival.

If you are hungry, Davanza's Pizza is one of our favorite casual spots to grab a bite to eat. A few other popular restaurants include Baan Thai, Handle, Purple Sage, Harvest, Riverhorse on Main, and High West Saloon.

Our favorite restaurants in Park City that aren't on Main Street, include Five5eeds and Nosh.

For more recommendations, see our guide [10 Best Things to Do in Park City](#).

## Enjoy Fall Activities at the Ski Resorts

While Park City's ski resorts are usually associated with winter skiing, they are surprisingly a year-round destination!

We love the summer mountain coaster and Alpine Slide at Park City Mountain Resort, but they are even more epic in the fall. From mid-September to the beginning of October, the track is surrounded by vibrant fall leaves.

The mountain coaster, alpine slide, and scenic lift ride are open through the first week of October, check the [calendar](#) for dates.

[Snowbird Resort](#) also has a mountain coaster and similar activities. It is open through the beginning of October as well.

If you are visiting later in October, you can still catch the [Halloween Lift Ride](#) at Sundance Resort.

Brighton Resort has a scenic lift ride that is open seasonally. I also recommend taking the 0.9-mile loop around Silver Lake.

It is easy to access right from the parking lot and is our favorite short hike where you can find beautiful views with little effort.

I hope I've convinced you to visit Park City in the Fall, it is bound to be a memorable trip!