



close second and has moved to the street behind the Crystal Palace. Both steak places are very reasonably priced.

For excellent New Mexican style Mexican food (not to be confused with Tex-Mex), go to La Cocina which has been in the same fun little casa for over 30 years! VERY economical prices -you'll walk away stuffed with food in your tummy and money still in your pocket. For "Tex-Mex", try The Cantina –good food, good prices. *(What is the difference between New Mexican and Tex-Mex? New Mexican is "delightfully gooey" - everything is in layers or tossed together instead of being rolled, wrapped, or lopped.)*

The variety of shops is amazing! You can find elegant resort wear, casual wear, ski clothes, unique coats and frocks, western wear, hats of all kinds and sorts, jewellery galore, outstanding art, unusual sculptures, fine Indian crafts, and even a Steuben glass showroom. Boogies, a bogus 1950's style diner and shop, has some of the most outrageous clothing you'll ever find. One of the craft galleries is Footloose and Fancy things - a tiny upstairs store which specializes in beadwork, leather wear, and custom moccasins. Curious George has ...well, very curious things and should not be missed by the men! Ladies should browse through Limited Additions for the latest in elegant wearable art and unique hand-

woven creations.

For those who love the great outdoors, lots of other activities are available besides gliding downhill. Ice skating can be done on the rink next to Rubey park. Sleigh rides can be taken to the gourmet Pine Creek Cookhouse. The Krabloonik Kennel combines a dog sled ride with a delicious four course lunch. How about a hot-air balloon drift or a very adventurous paragliding lesson! Aspen also has miles and miles of cross-country ski and snowmobile trails.

Those looking for upscale hotels will have several choices. The Little Neil Hotel is known as one of the most luxurious in Aspen. It sits at the base of Aspen Mountain with the Gondola only a few steps away. Ninety-two rooms, including some outstanding suites, each have a gas log fireplace, spacious bath, and wonderful views. Service is superb, amenities are endless. Sheer elegance best describes the Neil and it is carefully embellished with a perfect Western atmosphere. The St. Regis is Aspen's largest hotel with 257 rooms, large conference areas, and lots of amenities. It is located between the two lifts and at the edge of the town centre.

The December Holiday season is the most popular and reservations must sometimes be made a year in advance! So if this takes your fancy, start checking it out now to enjoy your winter holiday in 2005.



Get -to-know-Basics

Aspen was America's first ski resort, officially opening in 1947.

The town, like fellow World Cup venue Park City, was built with revenue from silver mining.

The resort has 315 runs, with the Ruthie's Run trail forming the basis for the World Cup downhill course.

Before skiing became popular the area was almost deserted, boasting just 300 inhabitants in 1930.