

A 'Hot' Hotel

The Telluride region's newest luxury resort has earned one of the most sought after recognitions in the travel industry, lending it a boost at the start of the upcoming summer season.

Condé Nast Traveler magazine has included the Telluride Capella, which opened this winter in Mountain Village, on its "hot list" for 2009. The recognition places the Capella among just 34 new hotels in the United States to be listed.



"As the first U.S. destination for Capella Hotels and Resorts, we had the great responsibility of introducing a world-class hotel founded upon the principle of service," said John Volponi, general manager of Capella Telluride, quoted in a press release. "Condé Nast Traveler's recognition – and so soon after opening – is a testament to the excellence of the entire Capella Telluride team, and I congratulate them wholeheartedly."

Nestled in the spectacular Town of Mountain Village, Capella Telluride is the debut destination in the U.S. for Capella Hotels and Resorts. In a prime Mountain Village spot steps from the gondola into Telluride town, this 100-room stone-and-stucco resort feels pleasingly intimate despite its large scale. The polished staff—which includes a personal assistant stationed in the cozy Living Room (stocked around the clock with coffee and snacks)—are as courteous as they are good-looking, from wait staff who remember special requests from the day before to ski valets who wipe down and warm up your gear.

The guest rooms, coated in neutral tones that lend it a somewhat generic mountain lodge-style, are nonetheless bright and generously proportioned, with extra drawer space under an obscenely restful bed, a sofa and an armchair with a tufted leather ottoman, complimentary soft drinks, a soaking tub, and a powerful shower with a seating area. The Onyx restaurant, which overlooks the new ice rink, serves waist-widening breakfasts and a more formal meat-and-potatoes menu at night, while Suede Bar is a low-key après-ski choice. Flexible check-out times, a small but inviting indoor pool with bench seating (retractable glass doors open in good weather), and a spa with a relaxation lounge complete with a fireplace round out the amenities.

The Capella got an additional boost when it was one of the hotels on the hot list specifically discussed on NBC's Today Show on April 14, in a story about the Conde Nast Hot List.