

# Colton's Favorite Park City Ski Runs

## Canyon's Village

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## The Canyons

Spread out over multiple peaks, the Canyons Village side of Park City is bigger than most other ski resorts by itself and was Utah's largest resort prior to the integration with PCMR. Well suited for intermediate and advanced skiers/riders, Canyons Village offers long groomers, perfectly spaced tree runs, and some of the steepest terrain in Park City. Here are some of my favorite runs and some pointers to help you narrow down what's best for you!

### **Super Condor: Upper Boa, Apex Ridge**

On the far right side of the trail map you'll see the Super Condor Express chairlift. To get there, head just downhill past Sun Peak Express. At the top of the chair head out straight in

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front of you. Upper Boa is a long, not too steep, groomed run that's perfect for intermediates looking to improve or for families that want a run that's about right for everybody. For a more challenging run, consider Apex Ridge. Just be sure to control your turns and slow down at the bottom because this run can be steep! For the adventurous, take the hike up to the top of Murdock Peak.

### **Orange Bubble Express: Upper Lookout Ridge**

While the orange bubble can have a long queue at the start of the day as people make their way onto the mountain, oftentimes it can be an overlooked lift once the initial wave of folks made it through. Be wary of Doc's Run. While a designated slow zone, it has some steeper sections and can become icy at the end of the day. After unloading from the top of the mid-station, go left. This puts you on a short cat track that quickly splits. I recommend going left instead of right (Doc's Run) where the trails split. This puts you onto lookout ridge, which is less traveled and has a more consistent pitch than it's neighbor. Be sure not to overlook trails on the skier's left side of Doc's Run or Lookout Ridge, as most skiers fail to explore these areas.

### **High Meadow/ Saddleback: Fun For Everyone**

As Canyon's Village only beginner area, recent improvements have really done their job. However, it's still only one area, so I personally think beginners would have more fun on the Park City side. But if your group has all ability levels, this is the place. From the top of Saddleback you have Snow Dancer is marked as blue, but is the perfect next step for those learning. While the top of Kokopeli is somewhat steep, the rest of the run and runs that branch out level out and are great cruisers. The advanced people in your group can have fun exploring The Aspens or The Pines and still meet up with everyone at the bottom of the chair.

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## **Tombstone: Another World**

For more intermediate options head over to the Tombstone Express Chairlift. Go straight and slightly left from the top of the chairlift. Start heading down, then take the next two lefts to get onto Another World. This is a long, winding intermediate run that is great because of the options it offers. At the top of the run there's a groove of well spaced Aspen Trees that offer some intermediate tree skiing. Just past halfway down you'll see the option to split and go left and stay on Another World or continue straight towards The Drop. The Drop is a groomed black that is great for an intermediate looking to try out a more difficult run.

## **9990**

For some of the most difficult terrain in the area head to 9990. Everything off this chair is double-black diamond for a reason, so if you're not confident in your ability stay away. The north side ( Red Pine Chutes, Charlie Brown, etc.) is fantastic, but you'll have to ride all the way back down to Tombstone should you take this route. There is also easy access to some of the back-country gates from the top of the peak. DO NOT take these gates lightly. Unless you're equipped with proper backcountry gear and training, please stay in resort boundaries. I am not exaggerating when I say your life could depend on it. Seriously.

## **Dreamland: Dreamcatcher and Dreamscape**

Since both chairs unload at the top of the same peak I like to group them together. After unloading, quickly clear the unload area (there isn't much space so it can get crowded at the top if people don't keep moving, this applies to both chairs.) Dreamscape is mostly intermediate runs, but look for more of these runs to have some moguls to navigate. This is the perfect chair to perfect your skills on the bumps! Dreamcatcher is a longer lift with more advanced terrain. I prefer to explore the trees in the bowl right under the chair, but

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Alpenglow and Pipedream are some of my other favorites. Keep in mind, these are older chairs that do not move as quick, all the better for some extra time to rest your legs.

### **Iron Mountain: Copperhead**

This is a great zone to “test your metal.” All jokes aside there are fun options on this chair. Copperhead is a windy, wide open run with some of the best views of The Canyon’s village on the entire mountain. Mercury is another great groomer that is steeper than Copperhead and great for quick laps on this chairlift. Be wary on white pine/cascade, as they can be more heavily trafficked and icy due to their connection with the Quicksilver Gondola.