

# Town of Alta



# Summer Recreation Program

## TOWN OF ALTA SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM



The Town of Alta, located at the head of Little Cottonwood Canyon, is a popular summer recreation destination. Each summer, thousands of visitors come to hike, bike, and soak up the stunning mountainous scenery. However, the abundant wildflowers, wetland plant species, and wildlife that flourish in this alpine setting are part of a sensitive ecosystem that is easily damaged. The Town of Alta operates a summer recreation program to provide information about this unique area in order to help protect the environment and enhance the recreation experience. Please help the Town of Alta preserve this natural setting for the many visitors to this treasured environment.



### MOTORISTS

Albion Basin has extremely limited parking. When parking is full you may be asked to park in the Albion Base area.

Please note the following speed limits through the Town of Alta:

- Highway 210, the paved road that runs through the center of Alta, has a speed limit of 25 mph
- The gravel U.S. Forest Service "Summer Road" has a speed limit of 15 mph. Higher speeds deteriorate the road surface, create excessive dust, and pose a danger to wildlife and other users of the road

To ensure the safety of all others using the road and to prevent erosion and damage to vegetation please observe the following:

- Be courteous to bikers, hikers, joggers, and wildlife
- Drive only on designated roads and park only in designated parking areas



### WATERSHED

All of Little Cottonwood Canyon, from ridge-top to ridge-top, is a protected watershed. The water that flows out of this canyon supplies the Town of Alta and the Salt Lake Valley with drinking water. To keep the water clean, the following regulations are enforced by the Town of Alta and Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities:

- Swimming/wading is prohibited
- Dogs and horses are prohibited
- Backcountry campsites must be 200 feet from water and a half mile from any road

Never drink water directly from streams or lakes as it may contain *Giardia*, a microorganism which can cause intestinal illness.

### HIKING

The Town of Alta has approximately 10 miles of trails and ski area service roads for hiking. Refer to the map for trailhead parking locations and trail descriptions. Note that the use of motorized vehicles on trails is prohibited. As you hike please consider the following:

- Stay on designated trails and roads - cutting switchbacks leads to erosion
- Leave no trace - carry out everything you bring in
- Refrain from picking wildflowers or damaging plant life
- Avoid disturbing wildlife

### MOUNTAIN BIKING

The trails in Alta are often steep, rocky, and shared with hikers. Some pleasant alternatives for mountain bikers are the service roads that wind through Alta Ski Area. Please note that biking is prohibited on the Cecret Lake trail. As you bike, please consider the following:

- Stay on designated trails and roads - do not shortcut or ride off trail
- Ride safely and courteously

- Bicyclists must yield to all other trail users
- Avoid biking on wet or muddy trails

### ALBION BASIN CAMPGROUND

Albion Basin Campground has 26 individual campsites and two group campsites that are available on a first come, first served basis, or by reservation. Each campsite has a fire grill, parking spur, and picnic table. Vault restrooms, garbage service, and drinking water are also available. There are no hook-ups or trailer dump stations. Reservation services and further information can be obtained by contacting the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777 or [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

### PRIVATE LAND

Most of the land in Alta is public land and part of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. However, many parcels of private land exist within the National Forest. Please respect the rights of private landowners in the area and stay on designated roads and trails.

### WE ARE ALL STEWARDS

Preserving the beauty and ecosystems in this canyon is up to all of us. Working together we can protect this area for ourselves and for future visitors.

- For more information contact:
- Town of Alta (801) 742-3522
  - Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest/Public Lands Information Center (801) 466-6411



Operation of the Alta Summer Booth is supported in part by funds from Friends of Alta.

This brochure is reusable, and it is printed on 100% recycled paper. You may deposit used brochures at the Information Booth. The Town of Alta does not charge fees for its summer program and donations to this program are greatly appreciated. Thanks for visiting!

