# SUMMER OPS 2.0 THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES!







The Setup: What's Our Context?

DestiMetrics **Winter** 

#### Summer

For the Most Part......

#### Summer

- Relatively new product focus (2009-18)
- No "Industry" to the season
- Lack of infrastructure for activities (now changing)
- Messaging challenges

## Winter

INNTOPIA

- Long Established
- Major industry and trade groups
- Strong infrastructure, ongoing significant investment
- Skilled, well-understood marketing





#### THE EVOLUTION OF SUMMER OP'S

# In the beginning...

The original trifecta - Ski, Golf, Water (and REALLY HARD mountain biking!)

# "Throwing spaghetti at the wall"

The trial and error phase...

# European Invasion

Adding mountain-oriented attractions as seen in the Alps. "We need some of this summer stuff!"

# Summer expansion

"We need MORE stuff to keep more folks here longer and spending more...have something for young kids...broaden the experience for a broader audience..."

#### Mature markets

"EVERYONE has "stuff." How can we be unique?"





#### SUMMER OPS 2.0

# Bringing it all together:

Expanding demographic reach,

Increasing spend,

Lengthening visit times,

Encouraging repeat visitation

AND THE KEY TO THIS IS ...





#### DIFFERENTIATION

# Establishing a unique destination within the ever-growing competitive marketplace!

#### Think:

- Brand-specific theming.
- Setting the scene while providing comfortable places to play, eat, relax in the shade, enjoy water.
- More than just stuff! Programming creating unique experiences USING your activities.





#### **Brand**

- Knowing who you are and what you offer
- Connecting with your audience on a deeper level. NOT just a transactional experience!
- DON'T BE A COMMODITY!

# Integral to creating a MEMORABLE experience

- Differentiates your resort from the others
- Keeps guests coming back again and again
- Builds loyalty (and recommendations!)
- Instagram moments we used to call these MEMORIES!





Begins with marketing paint a picture and make a promise

Brand-specific theming at your resort

delivering on that promise!

**Architecture** 

Landscape

**Guest service – high touch!!** 





# Nobody does it better (but we'll all try!!)







The Aspen Snowmass Brand

### **Brand Description and Positioning**

The Aspen Idea: renew, nurture and enrich the mind, body and spirit

The Power of Four: present four different and extraordinary experiences

Promote a sustainable natural environment and a healthy and authentic built environment

#### **Brand Promise**

Create the most rewarding mountain experience possible Deliver exemplary hospitality and superior guest service and amenities



The Aspen Snowmass Brand

MIND - BODY - SPIRIT

Recreation focus
Fresh, natural, healthy food
Displays of art







The Aspen Snowmass Brand

#### THE POWER OF FOUR

Distinct and different F&B, presentations, experiences, services







The Aspen Snowmass Brand

#### **HIGH-QUALITY MOUNTAIN EXPERIENCE**

Ski (and now summer) recreational product Elk Camp (and now Lost Forest) facilities













The Aspen Snowmass Brand
Translating into the Lost Forest project







### Elk Camp - mid-mountain destination





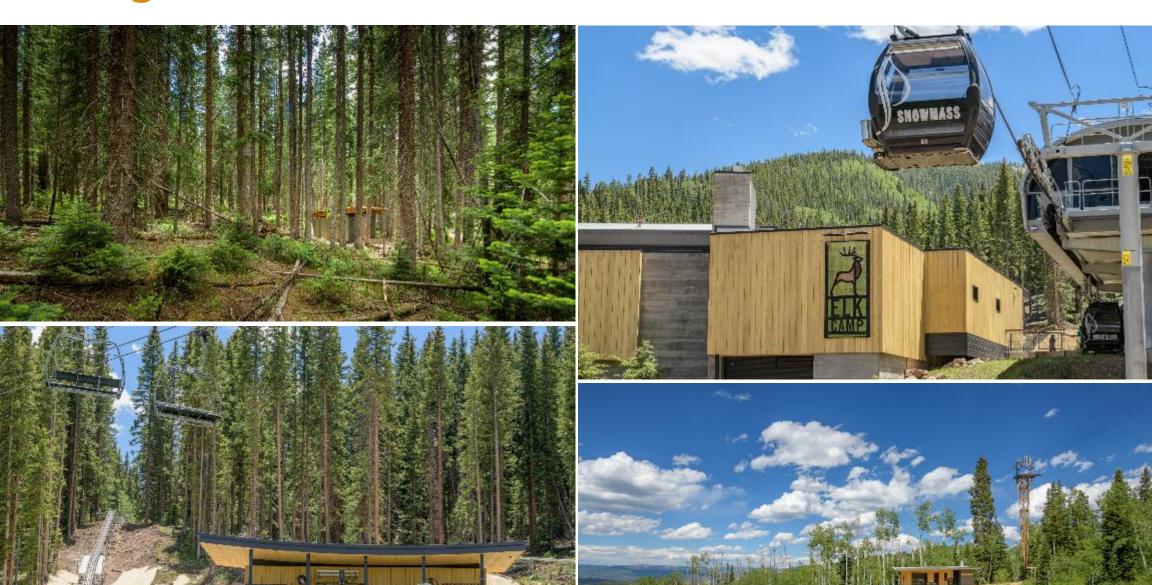








Design and architecture as an extension of brand



# Canopy Tour - create a unique experience







# Beyond buildings - using design to reinforce the brand experience









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### Year-round flexibility matters!







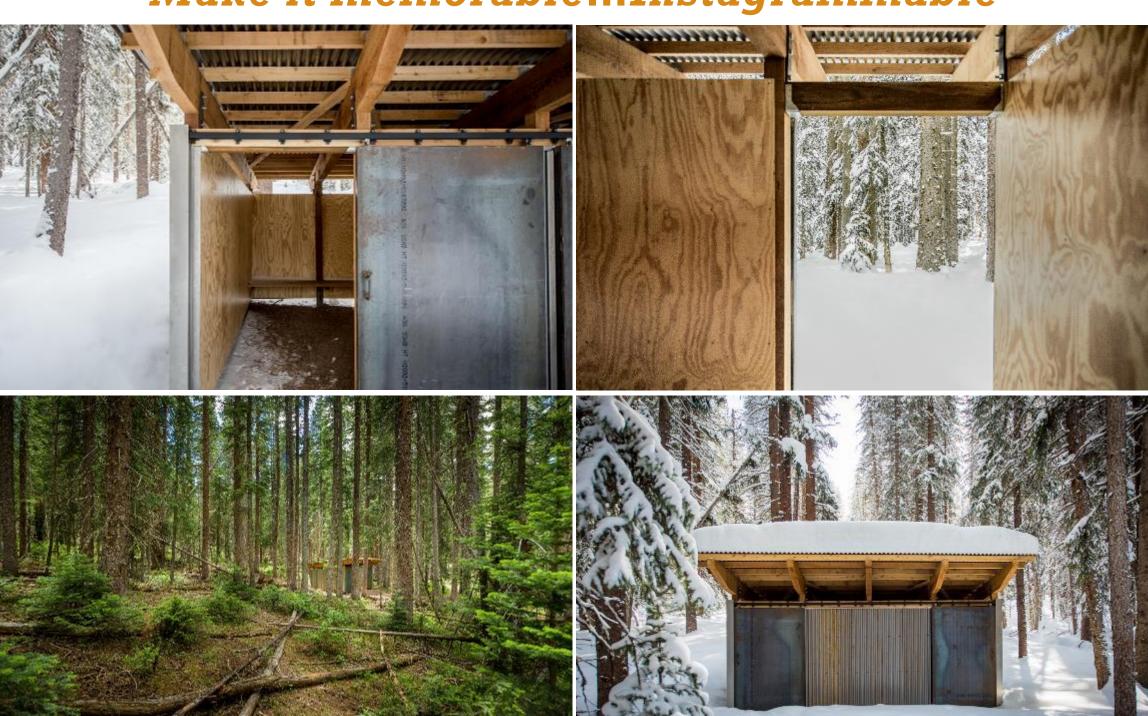








Make it memorable...Instagrammable



# SETTING THE SCENE CREATING "PLACE"

Creating "Place"

How do our resort environments look and feel after the snow melts?

Are guests encouraged to linger?

Do they feel comfortable and welcomed?

Are there comfortable outdoor spaces to sit, relax, and enjoy food and drink while other members of the family play?





# Creating "Place"

#### **Orient the visitor**

• Wayfinding – more than just signage





# Creating "Place"

#### **Orient the visitor**

• Arrival and orientation – start the day off right!









# Creating "Place"

#### **Orient the visitor**

• Wayfinding – should speak to the brand & guide the guest











Creating "Place"

#### Reinforce character and brand

Lost Forest



Creating "Place"

# **PLANTING 101: Add some green!**

Annual color





# Creating "Place"

# **PLANTING 101: Add some green!**

• Use native plant materials









## Creating "Place"

# **PLANTING 101: Add some green!**

Transition the vertical to horizontal











Creating "Place"

# **PLANTING 101: Add some green!**

Break up spaces





# Creating "Place"

# PLANTING 101: Add some green

Create flexible space: skating rink = summer green







# Creating "Place"

# **PLANTING 101: Add some green**

• Create flexible space: skating rink = summer green









# Creating "Place"

# Integrate activities (fit in, don't just plunk down!)

Use your edges

Intersperse places to sit and rest







Creating "Place"

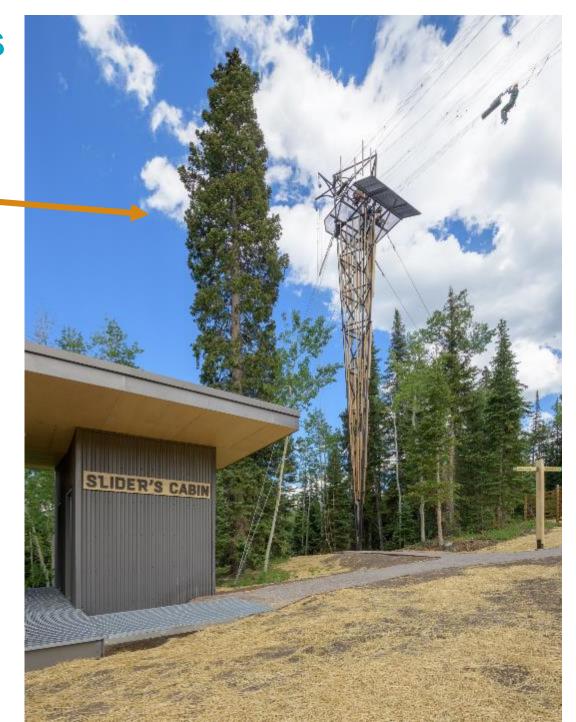
Integrate activities (fit in, don't just plunk down!)



# Creating "Place"

# Integrate activities

Tower was specifically sited at the edge of a copse of trees, and adjacent to a very tall spruce tree to minimize visual impact







Creating "Place"

#### Give'em some shade! (it's hot out there!)

Umbrellas





#### Creating "Place"

#### Give'em some shade!

• Shade structures - additional architectural element

(reinforce character and theme)



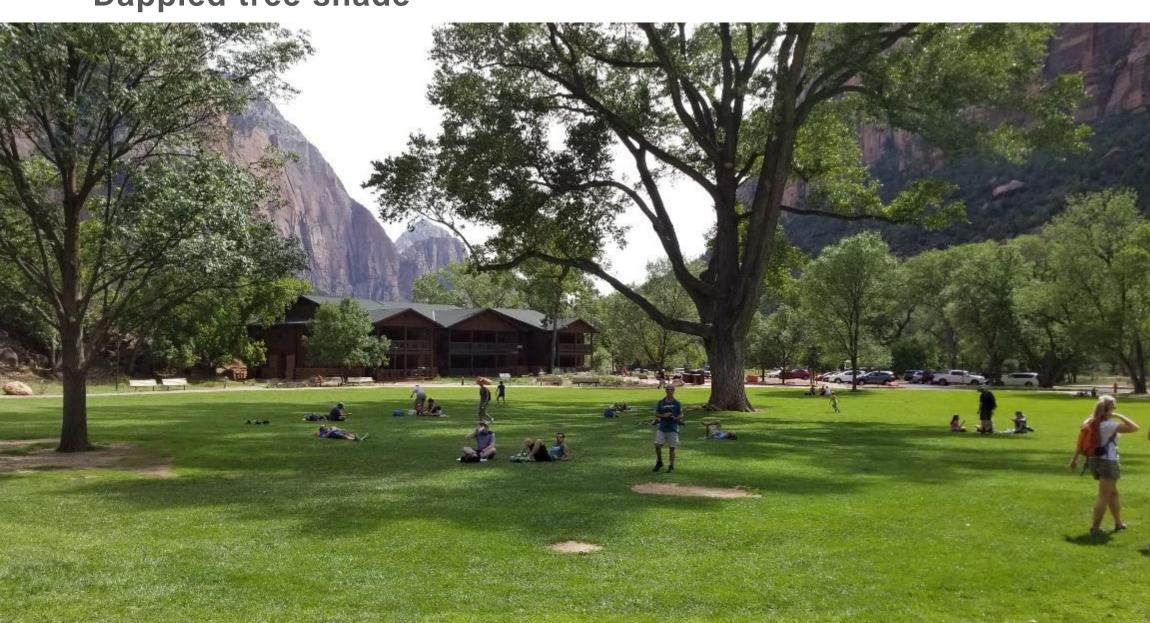




Creating "Place"

#### Give'em some shade!

Dappled tree shade



#### Creating "Place"

### Capitalize on the view (we are located in some of the most scenic places – own that view!)

Orient seating areas toward views









#### Creating "Place"

#### Capitalize on the view

Use a view to create an event location







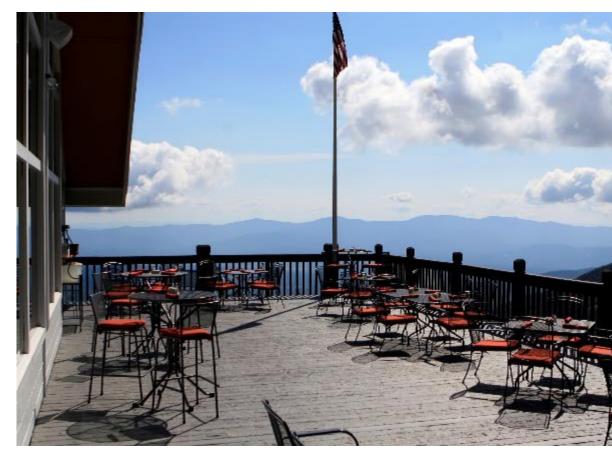


#### Creating "Place"

#### Capitalize on the view

• F&B venues – what are you watching/looking at while you eat?









#### Creating "Place"

#### Capitalize on the view

Everywhere – including the unexpected







Creating "Place"

### The power of water (people love water – give them some!)

- More than just swimming/boating
- How about that snowmaking pond?





Creating "Place"

#### The power of water

Splash pads



#### Creating "Place"

#### The power of water

Daylight a base area stream...









Creating "Place"

#### The power of water

....and find favor with local regulatory agencies!



## PROGRAMMING "CURATING" THE EXPERIENCE

#### **PROGRAMMING**

"Curating" the Experience

## Using your "stuff" and your staff to create place-specific AND brand-specific GUIDED experiences

- Increases utilization
- Booking in advance more predictable business
- Extend the stay turn a day trip into an overnight trip
- Value-add = higher price point
- Build loyalty (i.e., repeat programs for locals)
- MORE Instagram moments (aka MEMORIES!)





#### Evening Programming - Ullr Nights

- Tubing and coaster
- Sold out almost every Friday night!







#### Farm to Table Dinners

- Pre-Lost Forest expanded business with expanded offerings!
- Coaster, challenge course, climbing wall, bike park







#### Camp Aspen Snowmass

- 3 days/week
- Utilization of all activities differentiator in the local kids camp market!







#### Lost Forest Explorers

- Drop-off camp 8-17 year olds
- Guided Lost Forest experience
- Shuttle pick-up in Aspen make it easy!!







#### Private Groups

- Small/medium-sized groups looking for a private experience
- Challenge course or "full menu"
- Manage pricing through rubber tire shuttles (not running gondola for <30 people</li>
- With or without F&B
- Just getting started great potential!







# WHAT'S NEXT? THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS CREATIVITY IS THE KEY!

SUMMER OPS 2.0

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES!



