

# New chapter for Silver Star icon

## THE PINNACLES SUITE HOTEL

When Silver Star Mountain opened for the 1957-58 ski season, all the talk was the new day lodge, a two-story A-frame structure tucked in the upper village just off a run now known as Chalet Alley. From almost anywhere on the hill, you could see smoke billowing above its snow-capped triangle rooftop. Inside, skiers warmed their wool-socked feet by the fire, played a round or two of canasta, and ate ham sandwiches wrapped in parchment paper. Life at “The Star” was good.

Nearly 60 years later, that day lodge has become one of the most popular places to stay at Silver Star, in part because The Pinnacles Suite Hotel still captures the spirit of the early days. You see it in the exposed wooden beams. You feel it in the rock fireplace of Suite 5. You hear it, the eager skiers of yesteryear, in your toes.

Thirty years after it was erected, a group of ski patrollers bought the day lodge as the resort was building a new one in the centre of the village. Over the next three years, the building was converted to a handful of suites that now make up the Central Lodge. Over time, an east wing of executive townhouses, the Pinnacles Slopeside, was added, and then a three-story west wing made up of three- and four-bedroom townhome style suites.

People came from near and far to stay at The Pinnacles, partly because it offered cosy, authentic, ski-in, ski-out lodging, and partly because of a man named Warren Burgess, a founding partner and the hotel’s only general manager until his retirement in 2011. Year after year, generation after generation, families made their annual journey to Pinnacles because of Burgess’s hospitality.

Today, with a new format of individually-owned suites, the landmark hotel still strives to be unlike most hotels. At The Pinnacles, you get to know people’s names. You don’t get charged for parking or coffee. You can pull board games like Monopoly or old movies like *National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation* from the shelf in the lobby. Barley, your Bernese mountain dog, is welcome to stay (and they’ve even got extra doggie bags).



Nearly 60 years later, the original Silver Star day lodge has become one of the most popular places to stay on the hill.

While The Pinnacles also offers all the amenities of modern hotels—wireless Internet, gourmet coffee and DVD players—it’s the chalet charm and unique location that usually turn first-time guests into annual visitors and even owners.

From your sundeck, you can soak in views of the vast Monashee Mountain Range, including the Pinnacles peaks after which the hotel is named, or catch the last shadows of skiers casting down slopes as they meet just outside the hotel. In all but three of the 18 suites, you can soak those leg muscles in your secluded balcony hot tub or just bask in the serenity of Silver Star, so far away from it all.

Some are lucky enough to call The Pinnacles home for a week, some are even luckier. Four two- and three-bedroom suites are still available for sale through RE/MAX realtor Don Defoe, each with the option to live year-round, lock and leave, or rent for

extra income. Resident general manager and artist Destanne Norris oversees these suites.

“I love this hotel and Silver Star Mountain life,” says Norris. “I so enjoy getting to know our guests, working with a great team, having stellar suppliers as well as suite owners, and being a part of the Silver Star community.”

Will you stay for the weekend or for years to come? Learn more at [www.pinnacles.com](http://www.pinnacles.com).



Photos (middle/bottom) courtesy of M. Byskov

