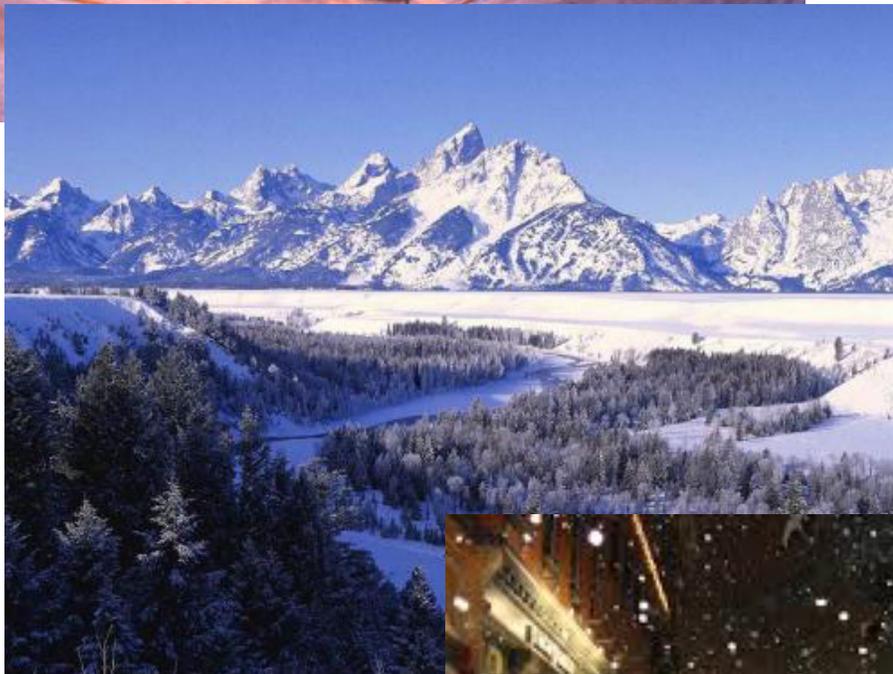


# Colorado Christmas

Words & Music by Steve Goodman © 1997 all rights reserved



The Nugget Theatre, was originally built by Lucien Lucius (L.L.) Nunn in 1892 to house the First National Bank and the Telluride Power Company offices.



The Colorado Rocky Mountains

The heart of downtown Boulder is the Pearl Street Mall that hosts a blend of businesses and restaurants and is filled with public art, places for kids, a stylized map of Boulder County, and small gardens. It is also home to much of Boulder's nightlife, and during the summer is the stage for street performers.

The Mall is a historic district and many of the buildings are among the oldest in Boulder. The County Courthouse is located in the 1300 block on the north side of the mall and remains the seat of county government.

*Wikipedia*



*Christmas as you go*

# Colorado Christmas

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*A* *B<sup>m</sup>*  
 Looking out the window of this Hollywood hotel,  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E A*  
 You'd never know that it was Christmas Eve.

*A* *B<sup>m</sup>* } Intro  
 The billboards and the neon took the place of silver bells,  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E A*  
 And the temperature is eighty-four degrees.

*B<sup>m</sup>* *E*  
 I can hear the traffic on the crowded strip below;  
*B<sup>m</sup> E E<sup>7</sup>*  
 As the palm trees poke their heads above the scene.

*A* *B<sup>m</sup>*  
 But there's not a single reindeer and it hardly ever snows,  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E A*  
 And Santa drives a Rolls Royce limousine.

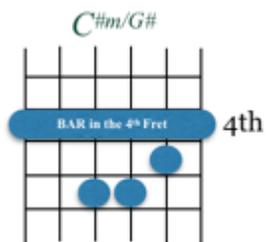
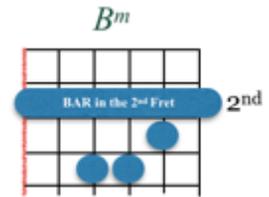
## CHORUS

*G D A*  
 But all along the Rockies you can feel it in the air,  
*G D E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E*  
 From Telluride to Boulder down below.

*A B<sup>m</sup>*  
 The closest thing to heaven on this planet anywhere,  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E E<sup>7</sup> A*  
 Is a quiet Christmas morning in the Colorado snow.

*A B<sup>m</sup>*  
 I remember Christmases when I was just a boy,  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E A*  
 In the morning I would run to see the tree.

*A B<sup>m</sup>*  
 And the carolers on the hillside sang their songs of Christmas joy;  
*E E<sup>7</sup> C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup> E A*  
 Well, I always thought they sang them just for me.



*Christmas as you go*

*B<sup>m</sup>* *E*  
 Now the sun is setting in the California sky,  
*B<sup>m</sup>* *E* *E<sup>7</sup>*  
 And I can't find the spirit anywhere.  
*A* *B<sup>m</sup>*  
 So I think it's time for me to tell Los Angeles goodbye;  
*E* *E<sup>7</sup>* *C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup>* *E* *A*  
 I'm going back home to look for Christmas there.

## CHORUS

*E* *E<sup>7</sup>* *C<sup>#m</sup>/G<sup>#</sup>* *E* *E<sup>7</sup>* *A*  
 Is a quiet Christmas morning in the Colorado snow.

## History

No Colorado-based song list would be complete without mention of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, which spent a lot of time in the state. One of its long-time members, Jimmy Ibbotson, still lives in Woody Creek, where he performs often. One of the Dirt Band's best-known songs that contains the state's name is "**Colorado Christmas**," which was actually written by the late, great Steve Goodman, who served as a mentor for folk/rock legend John Prine. Goodman and Prine co-owned a bar in Chicago named Somebody Else's Troubles, after one of Goodman's best-known tunes.



The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band  
Photo credit [Discogs](#)

*January 3, 2012, M John Fayhee, Smoke Signals,  
mjfayhee@mountaingazette.com*

Steven Benjamin Goodman was an American folk music singer-songwriter from Chicago. Goodman was diagnosed with leukemia while attending college, and he set out to make the most of the time he had left to write music. Hearing a report that the Illinois Central Railroad was planning to eliminate, for lack of riders, a well-loved train that ran from Chicago to New Orleans, Goodman, a prolific writer, penned "City of New Orleans," a song made popular by Arlo Guthrie and Willie Nelson, for which Goodman won his first Grammy Award posthumously in 1985, with a second Grammy awarded to him in 1988 for Unfinished Business. Steve Goodman is survived by his wife and three daughters.



Photo credit [Thursday Review](#)

[www.stevegoodman.net](http://www.stevegoodman.net)

*Christmas as you go*