

# mountain *meetings*

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POSTED OCTOBER 23, 2017



Sage Lodge

Photo credit: **Sage Lodge**

There is a lot on tap in the U.S. Mountain West that is of interest to the meetings and events industry. Here are a couple of new happenings to look forward to in Montana as 2018 approaches.

**Sage Lodge**, situated on more than a mile of Yellowstone riverfront, is expected to open in Emigrant next summer. This rural resort will feature 50 guest rooms located in a 34-room lodge and four standalone cabins. Among the many highlights are a Montana-inspired restaurant and bar complete with a wood-fired grill, a versatile event barn for private meetings or special occasions, and a fitness center with an outdoor workout space.

Indoor and outdoor meeting and event spaces for up to 150 people are planned, including the 2,500-square-foot event barn, three small meeting rooms, 1,800 square feet of pre-function space and the lodge's spacious lawn. Following the lodge's grand opening, a full-service spa with several soaking pools is scheduled to open in late 2018.

Located 30 miles from Yellowstone National Park, Sage Lodge has big views of majestic Emigrant Peak and will provide a long list of outdoor activities. Through a partnership with Sage Fly Fishing, a manufacturer of performance fly-fishing equipment, guests and groups can sign up for all sorts of fly-fishing experiences as well as hiking, horseback riding, birding, dog sledding and snowshoeing.

Less than an hour away in Bozeman, the grand reopening of **Rialto** theater is scheduled for January 2018. The historic downtown venue is being transformed into a cultural hub featuring live performances, private meeting and event spaces, a beer and wine bar and state-of-the-art acoustics. Theater programming will range from some of the country's most sought-after bands to local musicians, spoken-word performances, movie nights and more.

Originally built in 1908 as a two-story storefront and converted into a theater in 1924, the Rialto has a long history of serving Bozeman, although it has been vacant for more than a decade. The reinvented venue includes a ground-floor theater called Black Box that will accommodate up to 400 and features a mezzanine level.

The second floor features Burn Box, a stylish space overlooking Main Street that will serve wine, beer and a rotating menu from local chefs and food artisans that will be crafted around the entertainment style. Light Box, adjacent to Burn Box, is a gallery that will showcase work from local artists and serve as additional private event space for 15 to 150 guests.

It's never too early to start planning for 2018, so keep these two new venues on your radar!