

# NEWSLETTER sitzmarke

February 2019 Volume 54 Issue 9



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## FROM MISSION CONTROL

BY JAN FERRELL, PRESIDENT

We're off to a rousing start! Both Vail and Big Sky were huge successes. Our Snowmass trip is happening even as I write this message. And the beat goes on for the rest of the year. And it's never a dull moment when it comes to activities due to our awesome V.P. Activities, Lynn Burch. Check the website to see what's happening in H-Town.



The Texas Ski Council Bid Meeting is coming up this April. More information will be provided as we get closer to the event. Who knows where the council will select for the following season. As you know, SCSC runs club trips so if you have any preferences regarding travel, please let our V.P. Trips, Beverly Roberts, know about them.

We will be at Dave and Buster's through May and there will be a free drink ticket at each meeting. Yip-p-p-eee!

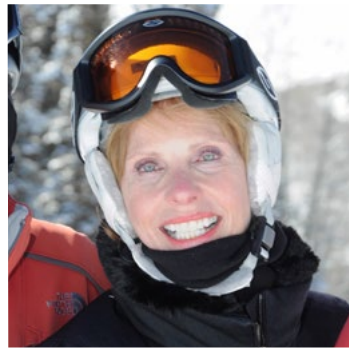
See you there and THINK SNOW! ----Jan

## COUNTDOWN TO LIFTOFF

BY BEVERLY ROBERTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRIPS

Hello from the trip desk!!

If you are a skier, this is a glorious time of the year. We are fully into ski season. Vail and Big Sky are in the books, and both trips had great snow, especially for an early season trip. When you read this, Snowmass will be history, and participants on the overseas trips will be having adventures on the other side of the world – some exploring the skiing and sights in the Land of the Rising Sun on the club trip to Japan, and some will be enjoying the dramatic scenery and



skiing on the TSC Winter Expedition trip to Zermatt.

Then we will launch the February trips with a club trip to Keystone, followed by TSC Winter Shootout at Breckenridge. February closes out with the TSC Winter Showdown at Whitefish, and March begins with our last ski trip of the 2019 ski season to Schweitzer.

More travel fun is waiting for you after ski season. We have three outstanding non-ski trips that will take you to all points on the globe. Check with the TCs for the latest trip availabilities, and join the wait list so you can snag an opening or cancellation.

- For the first time in several years, we have a beach trip. There are still a few openings for this exotic trip to Punta Cana, and enjoy the luxury of an adult, all-inclusive resort.
- Next trip is Peru and Machu Picchu. This is definitely a bucket trip to see wonders of the world in South America.
- The final trip of the 2019 SCSC travel slate is a TSC land and cruise combo to Portugal. This trip offers everything from UNESCO world heritage sites to the vineyards that are the home of Port wine.

It's gonna be a great travel year. Don't miss it!  
Beverly Roberts – VP Trips

## VAIL 2018



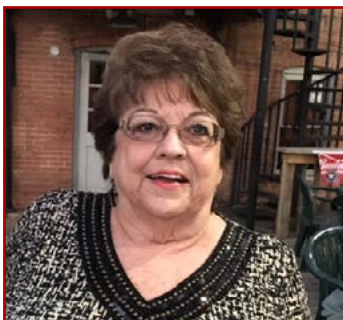
## Space City Ski Club 2018-2019 Trips

Destinations	Date	TC	Contact Link	Full Pkg \$/pp w/air	Land Pkg \$/pp
Keystone	1/26/2019 - 2/2/2019	Mike Willis	<a href="mailto:keystone@spacecity.org">keystone@spacecity.org</a>	\$887	\$658
Breckenridge (TSC)	2/2/2019 - 2/9/2019	Ann Dorn	<a href="mailto:brecktc@spacecity.org">brecktc@spacecity.org</a>	\$1,239	\$981
Whitefish (TSC)	2/23/2019 - 3/2/2019	Ali Pethick	<a href="mailto:whitefish@spacecity.org">whitefish@spacecity.org</a>	\$1,442	\$858
Schweitzer	3/3/2019 - 3/10/2019	Derek Shoobridge	<a href="mailto:schwtc@spacecity.org">schwtc@spacecity.org</a>	\$1,352	\$835
Punta Cana D.R. All-Inclusive	5/4/2019 - 5/11/2019	George Sargent	<a href="mailto:puntacana@spacecity.org">puntacana@spacecity.org</a>	N/A	\$962
Peru	5/29/2019 - 6/7/2019	Jill Nanney	<a href="mailto:peru@spacecity.org">peru@spacecity.org</a>	\$2,756	N/A
Portugal Cruise (TSC)	9/25/2019 - 10/5/2019	Melody Bohlmann	<a href="mailto:portugal@spacecity.org">portugal@spacecity.org</a>	Varies	N/A
Portugal Post-Trip	10/5/2019 - 10/8/2019	Melody Bohlmann	<a href="mailto:portugal@spacecity.org">portugal@spacecity.org</a>	\$1,489	N/A

## HAVING A BLAST

BY LYNN BURCH, VICE PRESIDENT OF ACTIVITIES

The December 27 Happy Hour was at Eddie V's in City Centre. I wanted somewhere fancy for the December holidays and this is a very nice place. A small jazz band plays at 6pm, and around 25 people came and we had a great time.



We suspended Game Days for December and canceled January's because of low sign up. Hopefully attendance will pick back up. Each month the Game Nights at Tea and Victory usually have 10 or so gameplayers.

We resumed dance in January and it was decided to keep the dance classes going all year instead of stopping for ski season. January was East Coast Swing and at this point I'm not sure it has been decided what class Michael will teach during February. During the year the types of classes will vary.

The Chevron Houston Marathon is Sunday January 20 and we committed SCSC to provide 11 people to help at mile 23 which is on Allen Parkway between Shepherd and the Federal Reserve Bldg. 14 Space City volunteers signed up to act as road guards and Bill Bomberger is the mile captain. This article has been written before the Marathon occurred so I don't know what the weather ended up being like, but it was supposed to be really cold. Thanks for volunteering!

The January Dinner will be on January 26 at the Blue Onyx on Richmond. Please go to our website to register.

January Happy Hour will be at Liberty Station on Washington.

There is a lot going on in February:

- A Super Bowl Watch Party at Stuart's house
- 30 of us are going to see Cirque Du Soleil,
- Bingo at the legendary SPJST Hall which will be fun
- the February dinner at Beaver's on Westheimer (where we had a Happy Hour in 2017)
- Happy Hour will be at Churrasco's Memorial City location.

Please check the website often for new activities. This is where you learn about them and can sign up.

Thank you to all the members who participate in the events, as long as you keep coming and signing up for activities we will keep having them and adding new ones.

## EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITIES

### UPCOMING EVENT CALENDAR

January 26	Dinner at Blue Onyx on Richmond
January 29	Game Night at Tea + Victory
January 31	Happy Hour at Liberty Station on Washington
February 3	Super Bowl Watch Party
February 6 to 27	Dance Lessons every Wednesday
February 11	Monthly Meeting Dave & Busters on Richmond
February 12	Game Day at Tea + Victory
February 17	Cirque Du Soleil
February 21	Bingo at SPJST Hall
February 23	Dinner at Beaver's on Westheimer
February 26	Game Night at Tea + Victory
February 28	Happy Hour at Churrascos Memorial

## FROM THE MARKETING DESK

BY BIL CUSACK, VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING

As I have been promoting the club on social media and to people in my travels, I get a consistent reply when I mention Space City Ski and Adventure Club.

1. Oh, I haven't skied in 10 years!
2. Oh, I've never done that, it sounds so dangerous
3. I don't ski, and I don't want to join your ski club

It seems they turn off when they hear me promoting the club. And it doesn't matter that the word Adventure follows.

I brought this up to the board and excom and they agreed that they have had the same experience. Our name is not attracting new members, it is doing the opposite.

We are also losing members yearly as folks reluctantly 'hang up' their skis (or retire from skiing if you prefer). At this point a rebranding is needed to help the club evolve, grow and even survive in the coming years.

We need to keep doing all the things that work, we have a full calendar of trips and activities, but we need to think of ourselves as a Travel, Entertainment, and Ski club. A club that skis (among other things) and not a SKI club that does other things. It is similar, but different in the public eye and even our own identity.

We would like your suggestions of names that describe us (beyond the 3 months we ski) that would bring us in alignment with the current and future mission of the club.

Bil Cusack, VP - Marketing  
Space City Ski and Adventure Club  
Marketing@SpaceCity.org



## EDDIE V'S DECEMBER HAPPY HOUR





Here we are again in 2018, continuing the tradition of early December Vail trips which started in the 90's. Eighteen of us arrived in Denver on three different flights with all bags present and accounted for. A very nice Arrow Stage Lines bus took us for the customary visit to King Soopers for groceries and Applejack's for adult beverages, before a very quick drive to Vail. Two more skiers arrived on a much later flight and joined us in the evening. The travel day ended with the always excellent selection of pizzas from The Blue Moose accompanied by a leafy salad, with beer & wine. The high spirits of the evening were enhanced by the remote controlled, heated "wash & blow dry" toilette seat in condo 211.

The continued presence since last December of the trail map in my freezer appears to have garnered favor from the snow gods who delivered plentiful snow allowing for most of the Vail terrain to be open, including the bowls and the Blue Sky Basin. Everyone headed to bed with the expectation of an excellent week of skiing and fun.

Sunday morning greeted us with sunshine, some clouds and lots of snowy terrain to explore. The Big Dogs (Keith Kirkman, Ross Baker, George Hirasaki, Barry Caspar and Dave Stotz) headed off for the steep, deep and bumpy. Ron Rabin led his group which included Janet McKenzie, Darlene Hirasaki, Francis Ackart, Susan Stanley, Craig Campbell, Joan Waddill and Tami Kawasugi, down pretty groomers. Ash Moza and Kasia Rezmer were joined by Anne & Tom Thomas, Andy Smith who were staying with Lori White & Larry Edmondson in Silverthorne, on an expedition to Blue Sky. Most of us got together for lunch at the cafeteria at the top of the Eagle's Nest gondola. Ginger and Evan Howell had a later start after their late arrival the night before. Mary Heafner, Scott Boates and Susan Gould made up our non-skiing group and spent the day exploring Vail. Après ski was at El Sabor where stories from the day were exchanged and much fun was had. A group headed off to The George Restaurant for their legendary duck.



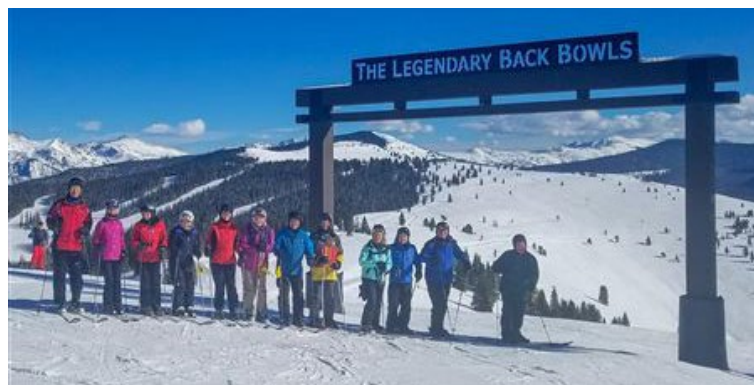
Monday was another excellent ski day with lunch at Two Elks Lodge. We après skied at the Garfinkel's Sports Bar.

In the evening most of the group shared a family style dinner of beef ribs, pulled pork and the usual sides brought from the always outstanding Moe's Original BBQ.



On Tuesday our non-skiers, Mary Heafner, Susan Gould & Scott Boates had a great day exploring on snowmobiles, while Susan Stanley discovered very well priced group lessons offered to holders of the Epic Pass. Lunch was at the Mid Vail cafeteria where a rare sighting of Jim Edwards wearing ski boots was recorded.

After lunch a large group of skiers headed towards the back bowls where some steep black runs were groomed and so accessible to most of us.



This intrepid group tackled Genghis Khan and Yonder. Barry Casper managed to remain upright when skied into by another skier who crashed but received a lecture from a ski patrolman on the virtues of skiing in control and watching where one is going!



Après ski was held at the Arrabelle's Tavern on the Square.

Wednesday brought more wonderful skiing conditions which everyone enjoyed. Lunch gathering was again at the cafeteria at the top of the Eagle's Nest gondola where we





watched snow clouds roll in. We après skied at the Chop House where Phil Long entertained the crowd and exchanged \$1 bills for shots of Fireball.



The evening ended with a group visiting the always excellent Montauk Seafood Grill and walked back in the falling snow promising a wonderful powdery day to come.

Thursday was a “powder” day with a few inches of fresh snow on the ground which we all rushed out to enjoy. Susan Stanley, Joan Waddill and Evan Howell joined a group lesson to further polish up their skiing skills, and Mary Heafner & Scott Boates went snowshoeing. Lunch was again at Two Elks Lodge which, while not centrally located, appears to be the group’s favorite. Après ski was at El Sabor where only a very small group met to exchange stories of the day.

Friday was our last ski day and everyone was keen to get the most of it. The Big Dogs set out for the back bowls and succeeded in skiing all seven in a single day where Barry Casper took this great photo.



Another group headed for Riva Ridge and the ride back up in the heated Vail gondola.



After lunch at Two Elks Lodge everyone headed to find their favorite runs to end the trip with. Darlene Hirasaki and Francis Ackart put their trust in Kasia Rezmer to show them a different way to get to Game Creek Bowl where they twice tackled and tamed the black and bumpy Wildcard. For après ski some gathered at the Lion Square Lodge lounge area where a cheese & wine social was held and we got a chance to chat with the lodge GM about plans for 2019 trip. The highlight was Evan Howell dressed in this evening best singing for his dinner.



We did not plan a traditional leftovers party as everyone claimed absence of leftovers. Yet Evan Howell showed off another talent in managing to prepare an excellent stir fry dinner from a very mixed bunch of what was left in the condo 211 fridge which about 10 of us greatly enjoyed.

On Saturday morning it was time to leave Vail. We piled into our two Peak 1 Express vans to head back to Denver and home, and start planning the next visit.



All photos taken by trip participants and published with their permission.



# Keystone

January 26-February 2, 2019

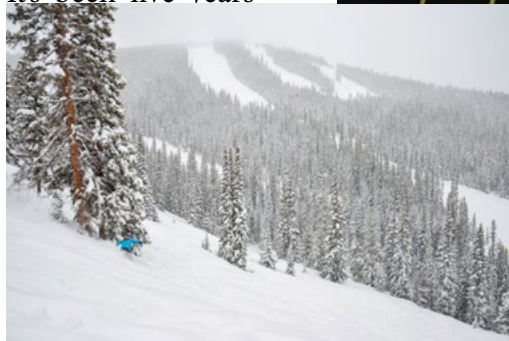
Full Package: \$887 Land only: \$658

## Extra Savings !!!

\*\*\$15 per day lunch credit per day of skiing (Epic Passes Count)

\*\*5 day lift ticket: \$332.00 (Seniors - \$292.00)

\*\*Keystone/A-Basin are Epic Pass locations  
It's been five years



since the Space City Ski Club has made a weeklong trip to Keystone, and it's not a minute too soon for a return to this beautiful resort in the White River

National Forest. Featuring 3,148 acres of skiable terrain, Keystone is the largest ski resort in Colorado. With the combination of Keystone Resort and Southwest Airline discounts, this trip is quite affordable. Multiple day lift ticket prices are being offered at a significant discount as well. Additionally, all skiers will receive a \$15 lunch voucher for each ski day, Epic Pass holders included. For five days of skiing that's a \$75 discount of your lunch. Keystone has something to offer for anyone from the raw beginner to the hard core steeps and mogul skier. And yes, night skiing is offered at Keystone for those who just don't know when to quit! And if all day skiing is not your cup of tea, there's much more to offer at Keystone. For those looking to do something different, there's tubing, snowbiking, indoor tennis, ice skating, snowmobiling, snow cat tours, sleigh rides, gondola rides, wine tasting, shopping and more.

### The Mountain:

Keystone is spread across three peaks featuring gentle groomers, cruisers and steep bumps to gladed terrain, powder-filled bowls and the award winning A51 Terrain Park. Looking up the mountain from the River Run or Mountain House



base areas Dercum Mountain dominates the skyline at 11,640 feet. Its trails offer long, groomed beginner runs as well as a variety of wide, rolling intermediate runs. Located in the lower right portion of Dercum Mountain is the A51 Terrain Park, with its own dedicated lift to assure that you have plenty of time to do the jumps and ride the rails. Next up behind Dercum Mountain is North Peak at 11,660 feet in elevation. Featuring a wide array of challenging terrain including long bump runs, it is like eye candy to intermediate to advanced skiers. On peak lunch dining is offered at Labonte's Smokehouse BBQ or The Outpost in the Timber Ridge food court. Or if you want to make an evening of it, come back later on the gondola for dinner at the Alpenglow Stube or Der Fondue Chessei restaurants. And further behind North Peak stands The Outback, Keystone's tallest peak at 11,980 feet. It's quite the place for those looking to play in the deep end making powder turns and tree skiing. And just a short hike off the top of the Outback Express Lift is access to North and South Bowls, where skiers can find wide-open turns and powder stashes. For those who relish skiing outside the lift lines, Independence, Bergman, Erickson, North Bowl and South Bowl feature more than 1,000 acres of incredible hike-to-terrain with secret stashes and untouched tree runs. Wanting to save your energy for mountain play, taking a \$10 snow cat ride will get you to those areas. Or book a day of guided cat skiing with Keystone Adventure Tours for exclusive terrain in all five bowls.



### The Resort Statistics:

Base Elevation: 9,280'

Vertical: 3,128'

Skiable area: 3,148

Largest night skiing operation in Colorado

Snowmaking Capabilities: 662+ acres

### Lifts:

\*Two gondolas

\*One high-speed six person lift

\*Five high-speed quads

\*One quad chair lift

\*One triple chair lift

& three double chair lifts

### Lift Ticket pricing

	Adult	Senior
3 Day	233	209
4 Day	290	258
5 Day	332	292
6 Day	360	324

### The Lodging:

The Pines Condominiums are deluxe condos located in North Keystone, a five minute shuttle ride to the Mountain House base area and three minutes to Lakeside Village and one of the two ice rinks. Our accommodations





include lodging for 4 in 2 bedroom/2 bath condominiums. Each condo includes a fully equipped kitchen, fireplace, balconies/patios, and free wi-fi. On site are a large indoor pool and indoor hot tubs.

Travel:

Southwest Air:

Depart HOU Jan 26 at 8:30 am, arrive DEN 10:10 am

Depart DEN Feb 2 at 2:30 pm, arrive HOU 5:50 pm

We will be travelling nonstop from Houston Hobby on Southwest Airlines, which means no baggage fees on up to two bags per person!



There will be a limited number of land-only packages available as well. All include RT ground transportation into Keystone and back to



the Denver airport. Land only package participants are welcome to ride our bus, as long as your flights coincide with ours into Denver and back to Houston. Our group bus departs Denver to Keystone with a quick stop for groceries and beverages en route.

What else to expect:

- Group Dinner
- Welcome party
- Daily suggested lunch meetings
- Apres Ski Happy Hours

## 2019 TSC Winter Shoot Out



February 2-9, 2019

TC : Ann Dorn (281-989-9594) [breckenridge@spacecity.org](mailto:breckenridge@spacecity.org)

ATC : Gin Knebel (713-412-7027)

### Package Prices

Full package : \$1239.00

(Air, transportation, lodging and TSC Dinner)

Land package : \$981.00 (No Air)

Single Supplement : \$856.00 (additional)

### Lift Tickets

#### ADULT

3 day : \$351

4 day : \$430

5 day : \$497

6 day : \$564

#### SENIOR (65+)

3 day : \$326

4 day : \$397

5 day : \$455

6 day : \$514

(Note: Breckenridge is an Epic Pass location)

### Flight Information (Southwest Air)

2/2/2019 : SWA #3879 8:35 am -10:10 am : HOU-DEN

2/9/2019 : SWA #3787 12:45 pm – 4:00 pm : DEN-HOU

### Accommodations

We will be staying at Beaver Run Resort, slope side at the

Peak 9 base and just three blocks from Historic Main Street Breckenridge.

They provide many amenities including heated indoor/outdoor Pool, lift side heated outdoor Pool, 7 mountain view hot tubs, Sauna and Steam room, restaurant and bar/lounge, fitness center and on-site skier services.

We can use the resort's shuttle or the local area transit shuttle for sightseeing, shopping and dining out.





## Transportation

We will fly non-stop into Denver. The party begins with a 2-hour scenic ride to Breckenridge, after a stop at the famous Applejack Wine & Spirits and groceries at King's. We will be arriving early enough to pick up your rental ski gear or unpack your luggage before our Welcome party. Our Mid Noon flight from Denver to home will allow you to plan your Saturday evening in Houston if you still have some energy left after all the fun we had in Breckenridge.

## Breckenridge

Breckenridge is a Colorado town at the base of the Rocky Mountains' Tenmile Range located 120 miles from Denver airport. It's known for its ski resort, year-round alpine activities and Gold Rush history. The Victorian core of this former mining town is preserved as the Breckenridge



National Historic District, running primarily along Main Street, with colorfully painted buildings from the 1880s and '90s housing shops, galleries and restaurants, bars and entertainment venues.

## Mountain

Vail Resorts owned, Breckenridge Ski Resort boasts one of the highest summit elevations in the U.S. at 12,998 feet. (Base Elevation: 9,600 feet; Vertical Rise: 3,398 feet)

The resort's several distinct peaks provide varied terrain to suite all skier types and ability levels (11% beginner: 31% intermediate; 58% advance/expert) and 34 Lifts including 1-8 passengers Gondola.

This TSC Winter Shoot Out trip includes Welcome party, Optional Ski race, TSC Dinner and award ceremony.



Picture courtesy of Whitefish Mountain Resort

Trip Coordinator Ali Pethick

[Whitefish@spacecity.org](mailto:Whitefish@spacecity.org)

Land Only \$858      Full Package \$1,442

and lounge area, while building amenities include a heated, secure underground parking garage, ski lockers and the only on-mountain fitness facilities. While staying at Morning Eagle Lodge we will take advantage of the surrounding views while sitting in the top floor hot tub.

Once called Big Mountain, Whitefish Mountain in northwestern Montana offers spectacular views of nearby Glacier National Park and with over 3000 acres - more terrain than Jackson Hole or Aspen, and rarely a lift line! Vast bowls, tree skiing, steepes, and some of the longest intermediate groomers, Whitefish can accommodate skiers and riders of all levels and abilities. Powder, huge terrain, no lift lines, gourmet food, perfect location, make this a trip not to miss. Last year Whitefish had record snow, 426 inches. During the 123 days of Whitefish Mountain Resort's season, it snowed 80 days. Additional lifts have aided in maintaining the experience of un-crowded slopes.

It's clear that Whitefish is in a resort's sweet spot: still small enough to offer the intimacy that nurtures skiing's most enduring traits, yet also growing at a pace that brings in enough cash and creative energy to upgrade the place just about every season. Last year Whitefish was in Ski Magazine's Top 10, finishing between Crested Butte and Steamboat. Service and character are a testament to the resort's small-town attitude.



Photo by Helene Robinson,  
SCSC member who lives in Whitefish

We fly out of Houston on United Airlines Saturday, February 23, 2019 and return on Saturday, March 2, 2019

HOUSTON / KALISPELL FEB 23<sup>rd</sup> IAH 2:40 P.M. DEN 4:16 P.M., 6:55 P.M., KALISPELL 9:15 P.M.

MAR 2<sup>nd</sup> KALISPELL 2:10 P.M. DEN 4:29 P.M., 6:55 P.M. IAH 10:20P.M.

The airport is only 30 minutes to our lodging at Morning Eagle Lodge, Whitefish Mountain Resort's newest, slopeside luxury condominium property. It provides pure Montana pampering in the center of the resort village. The two-story lobby at Morning Eagle Lodge features a large stone fireplace



Pair deep powder with spectacular views of Glacier National Park and the shimmering waters of Whitefish Lake below. Ski/ride through perfect corduroy or test your skills in the terrain parks.



The mountain is separated into three faces. The front side is primarily serviced by the Chair One high speed quad and has the most skiable terrain. Chair 2, which also runs on the front side was replaced with a high-speed quad in 2007. The front side has seven of the mountain's nine chairlifts.

The back side of the mountain is serviced by Chair 7, also a high-speed quad. The back side has more tree skiing terrain, and additional terrain can be accessed by T-Bar 2 on week-ends and during select holiday periods. The western aspect of the mountain contains the Hell Roaring basin. Serviced by Chair 8, a fixed grip triple chair, Hell Roaring basin is the most advanced skiing on the mountain with cliffs, vertical chutes, and tight tree skiing. The intermediate Hellfire trail is the longest on the mountain; it runs 3.3 miles from the summit to the base of Chair 8.



Pictures from Helene Robinson - Cross country skiing.

Whitefish offers some of the lowest lift ticket prices available. And those of us still kicking/screaming/skiing at 70+ ski/ride for free.

## Schweitzer Mountain Resort, Idaho The Best Kept Secret in North America

March 3-10, 2019

Full Pkg: \$1,451 Land Only: \$853

TC Derek Shoobridge [hlift@aol.com](mailto:hlift@aol.com)



Photo by Ski Idaho

\$155.00 - 3/DAY ADULT

\$137.00 - 3/DAY SENIOR

\$198.00 - 4/DAY ADULT

\$174.00 - 4/DAY SENIOR

\$241.00 - 5/DAY ADULT

\$211.00 - 5/DAY SENIOR

\$285.00 - 6/DAY ADULT

\$249.00 - 6/DAY SENIOR

SENIORS 65 - 69yrs

70 Yrs + Free

- Discounts on ski rental & lesson packages available for TSC, also Never-Ever ski discount program
- Free mountain tours
- Race fee is \$18.00 per person, 2 Runs same Day
- Extra buses for Mountain Lodgings to the 2 Parties
- Public Snow Bus to the Mountain to Town & Back is Free

### SKI WEEK FUN SCHEDULE

- Ski week pin and badges, welcome party, pub crawl in downtown Whitefish, banquet and ever important on-site representatives.
- Welcome party at the Whitefish Lodge Grand Ballroom. D.J. with 2 drink tickets for beer or wine included plus pay bar, hot & cold Appetizers: chicken satay, bison sliders, vegetable platters, toast points, cookies.
- Pub crawl downtown Whitefish and drink discounts.
- Banquet at Mountaineer Square Village Grand ballroom with D.J and roasted chicken breast, Waldorf salad, Yukon potatoes, vegetables, breads, dessert and coffee.
- Optional Glacier Park Picture tour and visit Apgar Visitor center with park naturalist 45 minutes from town.

Other Optional activities Include:

DOG SLEDDING

SNOWMOBILE

CROSS COUNTRY

SNOWSHOEING

**The Mountain:** Schweitzer is the largest ski area in Idaho (bigger than Sun Valley) and Washington. The resort boasts 2,900 acres of varied terrain for skiing and snowboarding. Home to incredible bowls, chutes, groomed cruisers and some of the best tree skiing in America (over 1,200 acres of trees!!), Schweitzer offers something for everyone.

Base elevation is 4,700 feet and summit elevation is 6,400 feet which is great news for those who have trouble with altitude. Vertical drop is 2,400 feet and annual snowfall averages 300 inches.

Schweitzer maintains 92 trails (10% Beginner, 40% Intermediate, 35% Advanced and 15% Expert) plus open bowl skiing. At 2 miles, the longest continuous groomed run is Little Blue Ridge.

There are 32 kilometers of Nordic trails for cross-country and skate skiing, snowshoeing and fat tire snow biking.



The resort also offers snow tubing at Hermit's Hollow Tubing Center with 2 side-by-side chutes that stretch over 100 yards.

Lift lines are rare to non-existent. A network of 9 lifts (including one high-speed six-passenger chair named Stella and two high-speed quads) whisk skiers and riders to the top in minutes. Total uphill capacity is 12,502 people per hour.

**Selkirk Powder Company:** The resort has its own cat skiing operation and, if you've never been cat skiing, this is the perfect opportunity to give it a try. Day long adventures start from the summit and have skiers on untracked backcountry powder by 9:30 a.m. Skiers typically complete up to 10 runs and rack up as much as 14,000 vertical feet on 4,350 acres of diverse terrain.

Selkirk Powder also offers guided snowmobile tours along groomed logging roads through thousands of acres of private and state-owned forests and has the only heli-skiing operation in Idaho.



**Lift Tickets:** Regular lift tickets are available through Space City at the prices listed below:

- 4 day adult - \$256
- 5 day adult - \$318
- 6 day adult - \$380
- 5 day senior - \$286

**Lodging:** We will be staying at Selkirk Lodge in the heart of Schweitzer Village. The lodge features hotel-style accommodations with an option for 1 king or 2 queen beds. Our rates are based on double occupancy but single supplements are available for an additional \$823.

The lodge is a short walk to the base area and the lifts. Just steps away are three outdoor hot tubs and the resort's heated pool. A micro movie theater is located onsite and shows three family movies a day. There is also an onsite spa which offers massages and a variety of other services.

A daily hot breakfast buffet is included in the package. This is a great opportunity to meet with fellow skiers and plan your day. Other lodge amenities include unlimited wireless internet, unlimited local calling, in-room coffee and hot cocoa, onsite laundry facilities, free safe deposit boxes at the front desk, daily newspapers, a business center and free ski and snowboard storage.

**Travel:** We leave Bush Intercontinental Airport on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:40 p.m., arrive in Denver at 4:16 p.m., leave Denver at 7:00 p.m. and arrive in Spokane at 8:24 p.m. On Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, we leave Spokane at 6:00 a.m., arrive in Denver at 9:17 a.m., leave Denver at 11:35 a.m. and arrive in Houston at 2:55 p.m. All flights are with United and are subject to change.

The trip to and from Spokane will be in a luxury private coach. There will be a short snack and alcohol stop on the way to Schweitzer Village on Sunday night.

**More Fun:** Since we will all be exhausted on Sunday night, there will be a welcome reception on Monday night which will include a baked potato bar with soup, salad, a dessert and one drink. Representatives from Schweitzer and Ski White Diamond will be available to answer your questions.

On the first day of the trip, there is an optional full mountain tour. There will be daily suggested lunch meeting places and happy hours as well as some optional group dinners.

There are several dining opportunities in Schweitzer, including the Sky House summit lodge located at the peak of Schweitzer Mountain. Sky House options include a restaurant, full-service bar and café. The lodge offers 360-degree stunning views of the Selkirk Mountains, Lake Pend Oreille and the entire resort. At this time, Sky House is not open for dinner.

There is a small market in Schweitzer Village as well as shops which sell gear essentials, specialty equipment and demo rentals. There is also a local artist cooperative which showcases drawings, paintings, jewelry and more.

For more shopping and dining options, Schweitzer's home base is the music-and-arts-loving town of Sandpoint. Voted by Rand McNally as the Most Beautiful Small Town in America, Sandpoint is located on Lake Pend Oreille. To get to Sandpoint from the Village, catch one of the hourly shuttles from the Red Barn parking lot. Visit Sandpoint's website [www.VisitSandpoint.com](http://www.VisitSandpoint.com) for information on year-round and winter activities in Sandpoint.

TC: Derek Shoobridge [hlift@aol.com](mailto:hlift@aol.com) cell: 713-501-1032

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# Mamajuana\* or Bust!

At The

## Luxury Bahia Principe Ambar

An Adult All-Inclusive Resort

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

May 4<sup>th</sup> Returning May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 7 nights!

Land Only \$962 Air Estimated at \$650\*\*

See Below Regarding Airfare

TC: George Sargent [george\\_sargent@yahoo.com](mailto:george_sargent@yahoo.com)



George and Rowena at the Ambar in 2014



Mamajuana



Map By George Sargent Via Google Maps

Join the Space City Ski and Adventure Club at one of the best beach adventures in the world. Travelers will be rewarded with your first Mamajuana\* (customary and a must try) or a cocktail of your choice upon arrival at the **Luxury Bahia Principe Ambar**. Okay. That's a long name so I'll just call it the Ambar. The Bahia Principe is a mega resort including multiple locations catering to the whims of patrons from around the world. The Ambar is a secluded section for adults only yet Ambar patrons may visit other areas of the resort. TripAdvisor reviewers give the Ambar a 4.5 rating out of 5. I've been there and it is a nice place!

The club and I will be looking for 28 excited participants to take advantage of this tropical paradise. Additional bookings will be at the prevailing rate provided the resort has openings.

The Ambar includes just about everything you could want. There are 2 pools so you can't go far without finding a favorite tanning location. It has 5 different restaurants for fine dining and many more in the other family oriented sections. It's impossible to go hungry. The drinks are unlimited and the cocktail bars are all over the place including a swim up

pool bar and watering hole on the beach. Outdoor activities even include the use of kayaks and catamarans available upon request.

The Ambar actually has two areas. We will be located closest to the beach. All the rooms at the Ambar are totally remodeled within the past year. So our rooms should be nice and fresh. The rooms will come with either a king size or two full size beds. You get to choose. The bathroom includes a hair dryer and the bathtub is hydro-massage. Other room amenities include Wi-Fi, a stocked mini bar, coffee and tea making facilities.

The beach is deep with shady palm trees growing in sugar white sand. But don't be afraid to venture directly to surfside where the blue water extends well beyond your distant view. It's your choice, just lay back and enjoy or soak in the crystal waters. You can't go wrong either way.

Punta Cana offers other great activities. Our group will plan several day excursions that may include options for zip lining, catamaran island exploration, swimming in cenotes and horseback riding on the beach. Punta Cana is known for its golf courses. If you are an avid golfer, I'd like to find a volunteer to lead a group. The activities outside the confines of the resort will be a la carte. Anyone can decide what they want to do and when to do them. I'll help with that.

\*Our official club drink will be the Mamajuana! Tradition has it that Mamajuana should be the very first drink consumed upon your arrival! This herbal drink should get everyone in the mood for fun. Mamajuana is a concoction made from rum, red wine and honey soaked with special tree bark and herbs. But forget the recipe. You just need to know the Dominicans consider this an aphrodisiac. You be the judge! Or just take some back home for medicinal purposes. Ha!

\*\*Airfare: The ski club is offering this trip as a land only package at this time. The intent is to offer a group airfare package for those wishing for the club to make those arrangements. I will support you either way whether you wish to book your own or to take advantage of the group airfare. Southwest is my preferred Airlines although I may check with others. I've talked to the Southwest Airlines group department and the agent suggested airfares for our May 2019 departure may not be available until October or early November. Relax. That's still about 6 months out from our travel date. For now, I'll make a list of names interested in the group airfare. The airfare price above is strictly an estimate although it is an actual airfare price for February and March 2019.



Let The Party Begin





A View of One of the Pools



Two Views of the Grounds

# Enchanting Peru

Discover Peru's breathtaking beauty!

May 29 – June 7, 2019 (10 days)

\$2756 Full Package

TC: Jill Nanney [jill@spacecity.org](mailto:jill@spacecity.org)

## Trip at a Glance:

- Direct flight from IAH to Lima; airfare taxes, fees & fuel surcharges; Intra-Peru flights, ground transportation and transfers
- 1 night in Lima, 2 nights in Yucay, 3 nights in Cuzco, 2 nights in Puno
- Visit the Lost City of the Incas, breathtaking Machu Picchu, and explore Cuzco, the fabled capital of the Inca Empire. See unforgettable Lake Titicaca and the floating islands of the Uros before ending in colonial Lima
- Accommodations at First Class hotels
- 12 meals: 8 full buffet breakfasts (B), 2 lunches (L) and 2 dinners (D)
- Comprehensive sightseeing tours including admission fees
- Experienced English-speaking guides

## Day-by Day-Itinerary

**May 29 (Wed): Depart & Arrive in Lima.** Depart Houston at 4:30 PM on your nonstop flight and arrive into Lima at 11 PM. Transfer to your hotel for a quick one night stay in Lima. (Not to worry, you will do touring of Lima on your final day in Peru!)

**May 30 (Thur):** Your flight departs shortly after 8 AM for a short flight to Cuzco, the fabled capital of the Inca Empire, perched at about 11,000 feet above sea level. On arrival, journey to the nearby Sacred Valley of the Incas. The valley has amazing landscapes of fertile land, mystical ruins and indigenous villages. On your way to the Sacred Valley, enjoy



Arrive at your hotel located in the quaint village of Yucay and surrounded by lush gardens. This evening your tour director hosts a welcome dinner and orientation. (L,D)

**May 31 (Fri): Pisac and Sacred Valley Excursion.** On today's excursion visit the world renowned and colorful Indian market in Pisac where many beautiful crafts are traded. Later, travel through the lush valley to Ollantaytambo and explore the splendid ruins of this massive ancient fortress. The village below is a fine example of the Incas incredible urban planning skills. Return to your hotel in Yucay later this afternoon. (B,L)

**June 1 (Sat): Machu Picchu Rail Excursion/Cusco Embark** today on an expedition to Machu Picchu. You'll ride aboard the Vistadome train through the lush Urubamba Valley passing along stunning scenery. Arrive at "The Lost City Of the Incas" rediscovered in 1911. The beauty of its location and the genius construction make Machu Picchu travel the jewel of all Inca settlements and a top stop in your Peru vacation packages. To this day nobody can explain how the Incas managed to transport the huge blocks of limestone for the city's construction onto the mountaintop. An expert guide leads you through the ruins and shares with you the amazing story of Machu Picchu. You'll have some free time to further discover the mystical ruins and absorb the beauty of this enchanting site.





Later, re-board the train and journey to magical Cuzco. (B)

**June 2 (Sun):** Cuzco is a vibrant town, dotted with archaeological sites. On a guided walking tour, visit the main Inca and Colonial monuments. See the Plaza de Armas, the center of the Inca Empire and the impressive 16th century cathedral, built on the ruins of the Inca Palace. In the old town view magnificently restored colonial buildings. Your hotel is superbly located in the heart of the old town near the lively Plaza de Armas. Evening at leisure. (B)

**Jun 3 (Mon):** Venture today to the outskirts of Cuzco to visit the amazing ruins of Sacsayhuaman, an Inca architectural masterpiece with fabulous views of the city below. The impressive ruins of Sacsayhuaman, 3 km above the main city, awaits you with a breathtaking view onto Cusco. You make your way to the sanctuary of Qenqo, the sentinel of Puca Pucara and the temple of water named Tambomachay before making your way back to the hotel. (B)

**June 4 (Tues):** Cusco/Puno/Lake Titicaca. Embark on a thrilling journey to Puno. As you traverse the rugged snow-capped Andes you'll enjoy the breathtaking scenery and see quaint local villages as well as herds of llama and alpaca. Visit the charming village of Andahuaylillas, with its renowned 17th-century church. Arrive at your hotel overlooking majestic Lake Titicaca. (B)

**Jun 5 (Wed):** Lake Titicaca Boat Excursion. Situated on the border between Peru and Bolivia, Lake Titicaca is South



America's largest and highest navigable lake. Today, embark on an unforgettable boat journey to explore the magnificent scenery and fascinating life on and around the tranquil lake.

First, visit the floating islands of the Uros Indians that still practice the old traditions of fishing, trapping birds and living on the lake plants. The totora reeds, which grow abundantly in the shallows of the lake, are used for their boats, houses and to build the very islands on which they live. This way of life began over 500 years ago when the Uros built the islands in an effort to isolate themselves from the Kollas and the Incas. Later, proceed by boat to Taquile Island, where the indigenous inhabitants are dedicated to agriculture and crafting of high quality textiles. You'll witness their customs, traditions and unique costumes before returning to your lakeside hotel. (B)

**June 6 (Thur):** Lake Titicaca/Lima. Early this morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Lima departing at 8:30 am. Upon arrival into Lima around 10 am, enjoy a guided tour of both colonial and modern Lima, founded in 1535 and later dominated by the Inca nation. See the historical center and the San Francisco Church as well as Plaza de Armas and the Government Palace. Later, see the fashionable districts of San Isidro and Miraflores with their beautiful parks and elegant residences. This evening join your fellow travelers at a festive farewell dinner at a famous local restaurant. After dinner, transfer to the airport for your flight departing shortly after midnight. (B,D)

**Jun 7 (Fri):** Your nonstop flight departs Lima at 12:35 AM. Arrive Houston 7:15 AM.

In the spirit of keeping things simple, this will be one trip (no pre-or post-trips) and there will be a limit of 26 people max. So don't miss out and sign up today!

#### Featured Hotels

Lima: Hotel Jose Antonio Bellavista  
Calle Bellavista 133 Miraflores, Lima, Peru

Yucay: Sonesta Posadas Del Inca Yucay Hotel  
Plaza Manco II 123 Yucay Urubamba, Cusco, Peru

Cusco: Hotel Novotel Cusco  
Calle San Augustin 239 Cusco 0, Peru

Lake Titicaca: Hotel Libertador Puno  
Isla Esteves s/n Lago Titicaca Puno, Peru

## TSC Fall Expedition Portugal and the Douro River Cruise

September 24- October 4, 2019

**TC Melody Bohlmann**

Experience the unique sites and culture of Portugal with a taste of Spain on this combination land and river cruise Main trip. We start our journey by flying into Lisbon and we stay there for two nights in a four-star hotel. We then travel to Fatima and sightsee in Coimbra and then board the brand new, exclusively chartered river vessel the *MS Emerald Radiance* for our seven-night river cruise along the Douro River. We also venture to Rodrigo, Vega Terron, and Salamanca, Spain. We end the Main trip in the home of Port wine, Porto, and fly back to the US. Or there is an optional three-night, four-day post trip to Barcelona for an

additional cost estimated to be \$1,489 which includes airfare but doesn't include a Barcelona city tax (approximately \$3 per person per day).



Picture source Bing.com



## The Itinerary for the Main Trip:

**DAY 1** –Depart the USA Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Lisbon, Portugal.

**DAY 2** –Lisbon, Portugal. Upon arrival, you will be met by a Mayflower Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore Lisbon. This evening, join your Mayflower staff and fellow travelers for an included dinner. Included Meal: Dinner

**DAY 3** –Discover Lisbon. After breakfast, an included tour highlights the famous sites of the city. See Jerónimos Monastery, ‘Monument to the Discoveries,’ and Belem Tower, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a free afternoon to shop, dine and experience this cosmopolitan city on your own. Included Meal: Breakfast

**DAY 4** –Fátima / Coimbra. Enroute to the ship in Porto visit Fátima, home to the Sanctuary of Fátima, an important Catholic pilgrimage site. The city’s fame originates from the apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary that appeared to three shepherd children in the nearby fields. Continue to Coimbra and its famous university before arriving in Porto to embark the *MS Emerald Radiance*, home for the next seven nights. Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

**DAY 5** –Porto / Pinhão. Today is a day of sailing through the twists and turns of the Douro Valley. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this area is sparsely populated by small quaint villages and typical communities with vineyards and small farms. This afternoon, the ship arrives in the village of Pinhão, perfectly situated on a river bend surrounded by terraced hillsides that produce some of the world’s best Port wine. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 6** –Pinhão / Vega de Terron. Begin the day with a visit to a beautiful quinta vineyard with spectacular views of the Douro Valley. Learn about wine production and its importance to the culture and economy. This afternoon, the ship sails for Vega de Terron, gateway to Spain. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 7** –Salamanca, Spain. Today’s excursion takes you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Salamanca, Spain. During the guided walking tour, see amazingly detailed and intricately carved buildings of the university, the 12-th century Romanesque church of San Martin and the house of Shells. Regal splendor abounds in the Plaza Mayor, the heartbeat of the city. You’ll have free time to explore independently before returning to the ship in Portugal. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 8** –Pocinho. Arrive in Pocinho and disembark for a morning excursion to the Coa Valley Museum. Designed to blend in with its surroundings, the concrete structure houses prehistoric stone carvings made by the early inhabitants of the Douro which were uncovered during construction of a nearby dam project. Return to the ship for lunch and relax on deck as the ship sails through idyllic surroundings on the way to Régua. This evening, enjoy an off-ship dinner at a traditional vineyard estate. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 9** –Régua. After arriving in Régua, journey to the marvelous baroque village of Lamego, home to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Portugal. See the Sanctuary

perched atop the hill, with its iconic 686-step granite staircase, decorated with the traditional Portuguese blue and white ‘azulejos’ tiles. Return to the ship in Régua after the excursion. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 10** –Porto. Having traversed the Douro River, the ship returns to Porto – a city with an eclectic mix of modern and ancient architecture. An included tour highlights the sights from historic landmarks to the scenic beauty. And it wouldn’t be complete without a visit to a wine cave for a tour and tasting of Port wine. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure in Porto. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**DAY 11** –Porto / USA. This morning, disembark the *MS Emerald Radiance* and bid a fond farewell to Portugal, filled with memories of this remarkable cruise along the ‘river of gold.’ Included Meal: Breakfast

Please note that the pricing is still under negotiation and will probably need adjustments. Also, since this trip includes a river cruise, there are different cabin levels on the ship and pricing will vary based on cabin levels. This is a TSC trip so there will be other clubs selecting cabins. Because of this, the dates for this trip could change and there will be others vying for the cabin choices. Sign up early for your best chance at the cabin of your choice!! Currently, the primary potential date is September 25, 2019 but depending on sign up levels and cabins available, the dates may be changed to early September or early October 2019.

The pricing includes airfare **provided that you register on-line and pay the non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person before October 1<sup>st</sup>**. The deposit is non-refundable unless you buy the trip insurance from the Tour Operator, Mayflower, and the non-refundable cost of the trip insurance for the Main trip is \$429. If you register on or after October 1<sup>st</sup>, the cost will go up significantly (\$675 or more) to cover airfare.

Best Current Estimates for each cabin based on per person, two in a cabin with airfare **if registered and deposit received prior to October 1:**

Riveria Deck \$4,553 (lowest level cabin 153 to 170 sq ft, at river level with small window that does not open).

Vista Deck, Cat B \$4,913 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Vista Deck, Cat R \$5,273 (188 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat A \$5,453 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat P \$5,543 (170 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Owners Suite \$5,903 (285 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

Riverview Suite \$6,083 (300 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

All cabins have bathroom with shower and hair dryer; complimentary WiFi; two twin beds that can be put together, 16 dresser, closet, telephone safe, individual climate control, flat screen TV; mini-fridge.



## OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2018-2019

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**Space City Ski and Adventure Club is a proud member of the Texas Ski Council and the National Ski Council Federation.**





# JANUARY HAPPY HOUR *Liberty Station*

2101 Washington (Between Hemphill and White)

Thursday January 31 5 TO 8:30PM

Happy Hour prices until 7 Frozen Drinks \$5.00

\$1 off all cocktails, beer and wine

Free parking lot 1 space over from them. Look for signs



## SCSC GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 11, 2019

**DAVE & BUSTERS**

6010 RICHMOND

6:30PM - 8:30PM

## FEBRUARY HAPPY HOUR *Churrasco's Memorial*

947 N. Gessner (Across Gessner from Memorial City Mall)

Thursday February 28 5 TO 8:30PM

Happy Hour prices all day

\$5.95 selected cocktails and wine Beer \$3.50

Bar Bites \$5.95 to \$6.95

Free parking in garage behind restaurant



## Sitzmarke

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## Sitzmarke