

## Ski Safari to Canada

Here are the most popular **itinerary options**, re-named **A** thru **C**. People may choose different options, but we may still be able to ski together at 2 or 3 of the places, where the itineraries overlap, marked with a **yellow highlight**. See detailed plan at: [www.mthigh.org/Articles/CanadaSkiSafari.pdf](http://www.mthigh.org/Articles/CanadaSkiSafari.pdf). (last year's dates)

We'll follow I-5 up, and Hwy. 97 back down. Arrive at each resort in the evening, stay the night, and ski there the next day. Check out of the hotel in the morning, after breakfast, go skiing, and at day's end, drive to the next place, usually a 2 hour drive. So, if a box in this table says: "Big White", it means we are **skiing** there that day, but we arrived there the night before. That same evening we'll stay at the next resort.

Some of us may prefer to do this same trip in early December (either 1<sup>st</sup> or second weekend), while others will do it in April. But, as long as there is enough early snow, **the majority is aiming for Thanksgiving.**

### CANADA SKI SAFARI – NOV. 2005

	<b>Option A "Standard"</b>	<b>Option B "Extended"</b>	<b>Option C "2x2"</b>	<b>Write your own itinerary</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>5 days total</b> 1 day per resort Ski 1 <sup>st</sup> day but not last (MissionRidge)	<b>6 days total</b> 1 days per resort Ski 1 <sup>st</sup> & last day .	<b>5 or 6 days</b> 2 days at 2 resorts. Skip Silver.Star & Apex	
<b>Day 0</b> (Wed.) Nov. 23	Optional Day 0 (evening departure)	Optional Day 0 (evening departure)	Optional Day 0 (evening departure)	
<b>Day 1</b> (Thurs.) Thanksgiving	<b>Mt. Baker</b> Or drive all day to Sun Peaks.	<b>Mt. Baker</b> Or drive all day to Sun Peaks.	<b>Mt. Baker</b> Or drive all day to Sun Peaks.	
<b>Day 2</b> (Fri.) Nov. 25	<b>Sun Peaks</b>	<b>Sun Peaks</b>	<b>Sun Peaks</b>	
<b>Day 3</b> (Sat.) Nov. 26	<b>Silver Star</b>	<b>Silver Star</b>	<b>Sun Peaks</b>	
<b>Day 4</b> (Sun.) Nov. 27	<b>Big White</b>	<b>Big White</b>	<b>Big White</b>	
<b>Day 5</b> (Mon.) Nov. 28	<b>Apex</b> Half day only, then drive home to Portland.	<b>Apex</b> Full day. Then drive to Wenatchee, WA.	<b>Big White</b>  Stay a 3 <sup>rd</sup> night at Big White, to rest.	
<b>Day 6</b> (Tue.) Nov. 29		<b>Mission Ridge</b>	Drive home all day or <b>Mission Ridge</b>	

- **Option A** (the Standard one) is the shortest. But you have to leave Apex around noon to make it home by day's end.
- **Option B** (the Standard Extended) Add 1 day at Mission Ridge. For only 1 extra day, you get 1.5 extra days of skiing (because you don't have to cut your skiing short at Apex). Emilio's favorite option.
- **Option C** (2 days x 2 resorts only) is favored by Mike and Diane. Last year everybody said we should stay 2 nights in one place. This is one possible way of doing it.

**Please let us know your favorite option** and preferred dates (November, December or April). Emilio will do it at Thanksgiving (as long as there is enough snow), but will also help coordinate the other groups, at least to put you all in touch with each other.

Note the following issues:

1. **Day 0: To Baker or Not to Baker:** It's at least 11 hours drive from Portland to Sun Peaks. You can either drive all day (on Day 1), or you can start on the afternoon of Day 0 (after work), and drive up to Bellingham, WA. The next day (Day 1), instead of driving all day, you get to ski at Mt. Baker, and then complete the journey that afternoon and evening, arriving at Sun Peaks maybe just a little later than if you had driven all day.
2. **Sun Peaks.** Only Sun Peaks offers free skiing to American citizens on Thanksgiving Day. That's an incentive to start even a day earlier, so you can be there on Thanksgiving day. But, it is not really necessary, because Sun Peaks will give you 1 free day of skiing if you stay there 2 nights. So, you can still ski free for 2 days (1 free ticket from Sun Peaks + 1 voucher from Warren Miller).
3. **Silver Star & Big White.** Both of these resorts are under the same ownership and they both offer 2 free days of skiing if you stay in the mountain village for 2 nights. (This offer valid only early in the season.). So, as long as you stay there for 2 nights, you don't even need the Warren Miller vouchers. If it's a foggy day, it's better to ski at Silver Star (below tree line). Big White can be a whiteout in the fog.
4. **Apex.** If you want to drive straight home from Apex, you need to leave by about noon, to arrive in Portland by 10 or 11 pm. So, you only get a half-day at Apex. The alternative is to ski a whole day at Apex, and then drive only about 4.5 hours to Wenatchee, WA. Then you can ski at Mission Ridge the next day (only 12 miles from Wenatchee), and you can enjoy a whole day there, because now you only have another 5 hours to drive home.
5. **One night only, or 2 nights minimum.** Except for Apex, the other 3 resorts insist on a **2 nights minimum stay**. The first year, we didn't even know this. We never made any reservations ahead of time. We usually called the next resort the morning before we arrived there. At such last-minute notice, knowing they had empty rooms, we were always given a room. The next year, we tried to make reservations several days ahead of time, and that's when we ran into the 2-nights minimum requirement. If we pleaded hard enough, we were able to get a single night anyway. But, it might almost be simpler to not even try to make reservations ahead of time. This early in the season, finding a room is usually not a problem at all.
6. **Lodging in town or the Mountain Village.** All 4 resorts have a mountain village, with ski-in/ski-out lodging. Most of us stayed right there on the mountain. Yes, it might be a bit more expensive, ... but cost can dramatically decrease if you share a room between 2, 3, or 4 people. Let me know how flexible you are in sharing a room, and if you are looking for potential room-mates. If you wish to save even more money, you can easily stay at a motel in a nearby town. Each resort has a town within about an hour's drive (or less). Another inexpensive alternative (at least at Big White and Apex) is a hostel, right within the mountain village.
7. **Cost.** For comparison, I think it is safe to say that an average ski vacation will cost you probably a little **over \$100 per day**. This ski safari, during the past 2 years has cost approximately only **\$50 or \$60** per day (mainly because of the free lift tickets), .. but you can push the price even lower, to maybe only \$40 per day if you stay in downtown motels. If you find a motel room for \$60 a night, and split it between two people, that's only \$30 per person. It could be even less, if you split the room between 3 people. We did that the first year, and everyone was comfortable. The price of gas is almost double this year, so that will probably push the total cost a bit higher. But, many of us will be carpooling, ... which will help divide the cost of gas.
8. **Three possible times.** The lift ticket vouchers are only valid during the following three periods: a) Thanksgiving; b) First half of December (until Dec. 17, 2005); or c) After March 29, 2006. If there is enough snow by Thanksgiving, let's grab it while we can! If not, we'll modify our plans and do it later.

## Canadian Ski Safari 2005 Registration\*

**\*Note:** This is not a formal trip. There is no real registration, no deposits, no payments to the club. Not even a trip leader, though Emilio will try to coordinate things. It's just a bunch of people getting together for some fun. Everyone is free to start and end this trip at any time. You can drive up on your own and maybe meet some of us up there. People who decide to carpool or share a room will share their expenses purely with their room-mates / car-mates, totally independently from the rest of the group. The purpose of this "registration" is just a poll to get a head-count of how many people are interested in which option.

Please fill this out and give to Emilio, either in person, or via email [Emilio2000@earthlink.net](mailto:Emilio2000@earthlink.net), or mail to: Emilio Trampuz, 4742 Liberty Rd. S., #296, Salem, OR 97302. Or phone: 1-503-378-0171.

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which of the **itinerary options** you prefer? How many total days? How flexible are you?
2. **Preferred time-period:** at Thanksgiving, or the first half of December, or April?
3. Are you interested in **carpooling**?
4. Can you **offer a ride**? Or would you prefer to **ride in someone else's car**?
5. What type of **lodging** would you prefer (**downtown motel** or hotel within **the mountain village**)?
6. Looking for a **room-mate**?
7. Would you be willing to **share a room with more than one person**? Most hotel rooms have 2 queen beds. With 2 people per bed, we could easily fit up to 4 people per room. Yes, it might make it a bit less comfortable, but it could also make this trip REALLY affordable!