

Hey Powderhounds:

This communication is for those of you who are planning on attending our upcoming ski trip to Ogden.

It appears that we have about 26 skiers on this trip so far and we may end up with about 30 of us by the time we hit the slopes at Pomerelle on Monday, February 5th. Sooooo, we got a good group going and everyone I speak with is looking forward to our ski outing. Many are repeat Ogden trip enthusiasts.

Since this is an "A La Carte" trip, not everyone will be skiing at the same time nor at the same locations. Most of us will start at Pomerelle on Monday, the majority will be skiing at Powder Mountain on Tuesday, and Wednesday seems to be the day that is optional for everyone. We suggest Solitude for those on a budget and/or wish to ski a Salt Lake resort on this trip. However, it is starting to appear that many members will stay in the Ogden area and ski at Snowbasin or again at Powder Mountain on Wednesday. Remember, this is a flexible trip where everyone does their own thing. Our plan is:

Monday 10:30 AM Meet at Pomerelle cafeteria for morning skiing or
 12:30 AM Meet at Pomerelle cafeteria for afternoon skiing
 7:00 PM Meet in hotel lobby for trip review.
 7:30 PM Dinner at local restaurant.

Tuesday & 6-8 AM Breakfast in hotel lobby

Wednesday 8-9 AM Depart for the slopes.
 12:30 AM Meet in cafeteria for lunch.
 5:00 PM BYOB to hotel lobby
 6:00 PM Dinner at local restaurant.

Thursday 6-8 AM Breakfast in hotel lobby
 TBD AM Head home or ski elsewhere.

A word about lift ticket pricing and advance tickets. You are arranging for your own lift tickets on this trip. Advance booking is advised. The ski industry is following the airline industry pricing practices which means that the lift ticket prices are changing almost daily. The longer you wait to book your lift pass, the more expensive it will become. Once you reserve a lift ticket, you have committed your money to that resort and if you change your plans and don't use the ticket, you will have to pay change fees or forfeit your payment depending upon the resort's policies. The ski resorts are in a profit-maximization mode which certainly does not benefit skiers like us. Advance lift ticket prices for February 6-8 are the lowest I have seen so far. However, this is no guarantee that they won't go lower or . . . higher this week. It's a gamble to purchase a ticket in advance right now. And keep in mind that if the area gets a good snow dump, and everyone heads to the slopes, the resorts limit ticket sales and you may not be able to purchase a ticket if you wait too long. So plan accordingly with all this in mind.

Pomerelle Ski Resort on Monday

Fortunately, Pomerelle does not play this lift ticket pricing game so everything is basically fairly straightforward. They do require an RFID card like most resorts for advance purchases. Go on-line and purchase your lift tickets a few days in advance or pay about a \$15 additional amount to buy a ticket at the window.

Plan on a 3 ½-hour drive to Pomerelle from Boise. Meet at the day lodge cafeteria at 10:30 AM to start skiing or at 12:30 if you are only skiing a half day. The lifts close at 4 PM so the plan is to head to Ogden shortly afterwards to be at the hotel by 6:30 PM. It's a small resort, so we will all eventually be meeting up with each other at some point.

Hampton Inn - Ogden

The Hampton Inn is located in downtown Ogden and has indoor parking on a small avenue behind the hotel. It can be a little tricky getting to the parking lot. There are actually two lots. One that requires a ticket and one that does not. Use either.

Let's plan on meeting in the hotel lobby at 7:00 pm on Monday to review the plan for what everyone is doing on this trip. We will walk to our dinner restaurant from there.

UTA Ski Bus

Utah Transit Authority (UTA) has two ski busses that pick up each morning across the street from the hotel. Go on the UTA website for the schedule or check with the hotel desk for the latest information. Figure that the busses depart for Snowbasin and Powder Mountain hourly in the morning and return to the hotel hourly in the afternoon.

There is a fee so check the website for costs and method of payment.

Powder Mountain on Tuesday

Lift prices vary so check the website and order on line well in advance for best pricing. They do allow you to change the ski date for a fee should you not be able to ski the day that you originally booked. However, you must use your lift ticket this year. Over age 75 receives a FREE lift ticket. Over 65 gets a discounted rate. I am hearing that some over age 75 skiers will most likely ski Powder Mountain on both Tuesday and Wednesday.

The mountain is about 30-minute drive time from the hotel on a dry road. Resort facilities are pretty basic, so if this is your first time to Powder Mountain, don't expect much. Think 1950 ski resort. Fortunately, the mountain and most of the lifts are first rate. See you in the bar or cafeteria when you are not skiing.

Snowbasin-Option

At the moment, Snowbasin is offering the best lift ticket prices on line for an Ogden resort. And since many in our ski club have an Ikon or Mountain Collective pass, it appears that Wednesday will be a day that many of our members will be skiing at Snowbasin. Figure on a 40-minute drive to the resort. We will get a better understanding at dinner on Tuesday who is skiing where on Wednesday.

Solitude-Option

We have suggested Solitude as a ski resort choice given that they offer the best pricing and some of the better local skiing in the Salt Lake area. Plan on a 90-minute drive in good weather and in no traffic. Since many of our club will be staying in Ogden on Wednesday, I am not sure how many of us will be going to Solitude. We will figure this out at dinner on Tuesday evening.

Dinners

There are many decent affordable restaurants within a two-block walk of our hotel. Next week, we will send out the list of the restaurants that we will be dining at. Trip members that are not staying at the Hampton Inn are invited to join us at each restaurant.

Trip Members

If you have not already done so, please let me know which nights you are staying at the Hampton Inn and your cell phone number. Once the trip begins, I will be using text messages as a means to communicate with everyone.

Car Pools

If you need a lift, let me know which days you will be attending and I will see what I can do to hook you up with someone participating on the same days.

Another communication will be sent out around February 1, 2024 to advise you of the restaurants that we will be dining at and to update you on any additional particulars.

Trip Leader Information

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Kowabunga!

Dan