

W-SSOC Ski Vacations Planning for 2019 and Request for Input

General Notes

1. SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK. Please read this document and send any comments, questions, suggestions regarding the below list of destinations, currently under consideration for W-SSOC Ski Vacations in 2019, to W-SSOC Ski Vacations Director Ken Lumsden ken@wssoc.org and to W-SSOC VP Outings Mike Shipko mike@wssoc.org. Or, see us at a W-SSOC meeting or activity. If responses to a particular proposal receive a strong response, we may want to pay early deposits (in Summer/Fall'17) to secure 2018 pricing for 2019. If responses are more mixed, it will take longer to narrow down the choices. At latest, we would like to have contracts in place by February/March 2018 for trips in 2019. So, don't delay. **PLEASE Send Us Your Opinion.**

2. Destinations under Consideration. Destinations currently under consideration for W-SSOC Ski Vacations in 2019 include Big Sky, MT, Crested Butte, CO, Jackson Hole, WY and Park City, UT. All are places that W-SSOC members have expressed interest in returning to. (We visited Jackson Hole in 1984, 1999 and 2012; Park City in 1993 and 2010, Big Sky in 1994 and 2001 (+ more recent Crescent trips) and Crested Butte in 2002). Sun Valley, ID (1980, 1996) could also be a possibility. Schweitzer, ID might be suitable for a small W-SSOC trip. Lake Tahoe, CA/NV (1983, 1989, 2011) and Whistler-Blackcomb, BC (1992, 1997), are both excellent potential destinations, but nowadays their weather is deemed potentially too variable in ski season. This perception may change if the 2017-2018 season proves to be a repeat of their excellent 2016-2017 season!

3. ("Destinations....", continued). European destinations could also be considered, but demand for US/Canadian destinations seems stronger among W-SSOC skiers at the moment. But, it's been over 18 years since W-SSOC offered a trip to Europe, so we may be "past due" to offer another. Prior trips have included Badgastein, Austria (1999), Grindelwald, Switzerland (1992), St Anton, Austria (1990, 1986, 1985) Chamonix, France (1989), Cortina, Italy (1988), and Kitzbühel, Austria (1982).

4. Trip dates for 2019. Dates for a main W-SSOC trip (might be more than one trip offered) are anticipated to be Saturday-Saturday, January 26-February 2 or February 2-9, 2019.

5. Ground package prices shown are based on actual trips in 2018 in similar timeframe as dates anticipated for 2019. Final prices for 2019 are anticipated to be slightly higher, unless we book land packages early to avoid price increases.

6. Air prices shown are based on **GSO origin** and non-group, non-refundable, prices available on 8.7.2017 when this data was compiled. Final prices for 2019 likely will vary from this. W-SSOC typically offers group air (and Land Only, for those who use Frequent Flier) for the greater flexibility in booking and cancellation, albeit at usually a few dollars higher cost than non-group, non-refundable air. The air prices shown were the lowest available with GSO origin (See GSO vs CLT below) and had generally acceptable itineraries. W-SSOC participants have lately expressed greater interest in flying out of GSO for the shorter driving distance to the airport. CLT generally has more flights to choose from and usually better prices. The gap between prices for GSO origin and CLT origin has been narrowing in recent years. In this analysis, CLT origin is one to several dollars less than the equivalent flight with GSO origin. Here's the current comparison:

CLT-BZN (\$1); CLT-GUC (\$34); CLT-JAC (\$19); CLT-SLC (\$44). Final selection of air for 2019 will consider airline availability, flight origin, group pricing, seat count availability and flight itineraries.

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	Lodging	Features	Package \$		
Big Sky, MT	Stillwater Condos (Turkey Leg Rd) 2BR/2B (a strung-out complex, could be 200 yd up to 500 yd walk (slight uphill grade) to Explorer or Swift Current lift)	Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 5d lift; Parties; Admin.	\$1,122		
		Delta Air GSO-BZN (Bozeman, MT)	\$474		
		Estimated Total	\$1,596		
	Huntley Lodge (50 Big Sky Resort Rd) dbl occ hotel room (slopeside, Explorer Double Chair about 100 feet outside back door)	Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 7d breakfast; 5d lift; Parties; Admin.	\$1,325		
		Delta Air GSO-BZN (Bozeman, MT)	\$474		
		Estimated Total	\$1,799		
Crested Butte, CO	Plaza Condos (11 Snowmass Ave) 3BR/3B, about 100-yd walk to Silver Queen Express Lift	Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 5d lift; Parties; Admin.	\$995		
		American Air GSO-GUC (Gunnison, CO)	\$567		
		Estimated Total	\$1,562		
	Grand Lodge (6 Emmons Loop) dbl occ hotel room in Whetstone Queen Suite (1BR(2Q)) (about 0.2 mi. from lift base)	Plaza Condos in 2BR/2B unit. ADD	\$40		
		Estimated Total	\$1,602		
		Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 5d lift; Parties; Admin.	\$1,125		
		American Air GSO-GUC (Gunnison, CO)	\$567		
		Estimated Total	\$1,692		
		Jackson Hole, WY	49er Inn Hotel & Suites (330 W Pearl Ave) recent renovations, in town (about 8 mi. to lift base) dbl occ. hotel room with refrigerator	Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 7d breakfast; 5d lift; Free daily shuttle to ski area; BBQ dinner; Parties; Admin.	\$790
Delta Air GSO-JAC (Jackson Hole, WY)	\$524				
Estimated Total	\$1,314				
49er upgrade to Suite, dbl occ w/ 1 or 2 beds, mini fridge, microwave, couch. ADD	\$80				
		Estimated Total	\$1,394		
		Park City, UT	Doubletree/Hilton (1800 Park Ave) dbl occ hotel on free shuttle route about 0.8 mi. from Park Station Condos (1000 Park Ave); about 0.2 mi. from Park Ave Condos (1705 Capt Molly Dr)	Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 5d lift incl. Canyons (ADD \$29 to incl. Deer Valley); Parties; Admin.	\$1,238
				Delta Air GSO-SLC (Salt Lake City, UT)	\$466
Estimated Total	\$1,704				
	Park Station Condos (1000 Park Ave) 2BR/2B (two blocks walk to Town Lift)		Airport xfers; 7n lodging; 5d lift incl. Canyons (ADD \$29 to incl. Deer Valley); Parties; Admin.	\$1,383	
		Delta Air GSO-SLC (Salt Lake City, UT)	\$466		
		Estimated Total	\$1,849		