

Long-Distance Ski Trip FAQ's

Signing up for a trip

Q: I sent in my application for a trip the day that I received my new trip brochure. I'm definitely on the trip, right?

A: Nobody is "on" the trip until the sign-up date specified in Section 4 of the Trip Guidelines

Q: I signed up for a trip to "get my foot into the door". I can switch to another trip with no problem, right?

A: No. There is no provision for switching from one trip to another. You are committed to going on the trip that you made your deposit on.

Q: I am going to sign up for all of the trips to make sure that I get on several. Then I'll cancel the ones that I don't want to go on. No problem here?

A: Your deposit is a commitment to the club that you will be going on a trip. There are no refunds for deposits paid. If you can't make it due to unforeseen circumstances, the best thing for you to do will be to find someone else to take your place. Even then, you may wind up paying fees to get the airline ticket name changed, and you may not get your deposits back until the trip has run.

Flights and other deviations

Q: I have oodles of frequent flier miles. Can I use them on the trip?

A: No. The Ski Club purchases airline tickets in bulk through our agents. Purchasing a ticket outside of the system is not allowed. It could impact the package requirements and therefore the price for everyone on the trip (See 2nd paragraph of Trip Tips)

Q: Can I accumulate frequent flyer miles on my trip?

A: Probably. Give the person at the ticket counter your frequent flyer number.

Q: My son lives in another state and wants to go on a trip with me. Can he buy his own ticket and just pay for the rest of the trip?

A: Our trip agents have been very cooperative in the past with helping our friends and relatives go on trips. The ticketing must be run through them to keep from negatively impacting others on the trip. The agent can often get you a very good rate. If not, they might recommend that you purchase your own ticket.

Q: My son lives near an airline hub and can get cheaper flights than we can get from Roanoke. Does he still have to pay the full trip price?

A: Yes.

Q: My son lives in an area served by a small airport, known for high ticket prices. Can he go on our trip for the advertised price?

A: Probably not. He will pay the trip price plus any difference in airline ticket price.

Q: My buddy from college wants to join me on a trip. He lives within driving distance of the resort. Can he join the trip and pay for just the ground portion of the trip?

A: Possibly. Our trips are priced based on us meeting minimum requirements for airline seats and lodging. Once the requirements are met, the participant could be added to the trip, with the airfare deducted from his trip. Keep in mind that he will pay for everything else including the ground transfer(s), club fees, trip provider fee...

Trip components

Q: My husband wants to go on a trip, but he doesn't ski. Does he have to pay the full price?

A: Generally not. We can usually take the lift ticket cost out of the package as long as we do not go below a critical number.

Q: My daughter is flying in from another airport and will not be able to meet the group for the provided ground transportation. She will take a taxi to the ski resort. Can I deduct the ground transportation cost from his trip since she will not be using it?

A: No. The Ski Club pays the same for the bus whether 1 person or 30 people ride it.

Q: My son can only come for part of the trip. Can I deduct the cost of the group dinner and other such things that he will not attend?

A: Maybe. We may have to guarantee a certain number of people or \$\$\$'s. There is a limit to such deductions. Our trips are a package deal, not to be sold a la carte.

Q: I'll probably want to ski fewer days than 5 (or whatever is included). Can I buy less than 5 days?

A: Sometimes yes, but you may be surprised at how little you save. Think about giving your extra day to someone else on the trip. They will really appreciate it!

Q: I'll want to ski more than 5 days (or whatever is included). Can I buy an additional day(s)?

A: Yes and the rate will almost certainly be less than the window rate. This must be done through the trip leader well in advance of the trip.

Trip Insurance

Q: I don't need trip insurance. If I can't go on a trip, then I'll just find someone else and I won't owe the club anything.

A: Even if you can find someone to take your place, you may still have to pay fees to get the airline ticket name changed.

Q: Do I have to buy trip insurance from the trip provider who sells the trip

A: No. Our providers sell insurance at competitive rates, but you can purchase insurance from whomever you choose.

Lodging

Q: I am paying a single supplement so that I won't have to room with a bunch of jerks. I'll get my own unit, right?

A: In hotel lodging you will get your own room. In condo lodging you will get your own bedroom (it might be the smallest bedroom, or not have a bathroom).

Q: I signed up for a trip. If the club doesn't find a roommate for me, I'll get a room to myself without paying the single supplement, right?

A: It is up to you to find a roommate. If you wind up in a room by yourself, then you will have to pay the single supplement.

Q: I want to room with a bunch of my family/friends. No problem, right?

A: The trip leader will try to accommodate rooming requests, but rooming arrangements are not guaranteed.

Q: My son and his friend are typical teens. They can sleep anywhere. How about if we just let them sleep on the floor of our motel room (or sleeper sofa in the condo) ? Nobody at the resort will know any different.

A: Absolutely not. Part of the reason that the Ski Club gets preferential rates on lodging is our long history of being good guests on past trips. We will not jeopardize our relationship with the establishment by allowing you to sneak extra people into a unit.

Luggage

Q: Can I ship my skis and luggage to the hotel/condo?

A: Probably. Your trip leader will check on this.

Q: Can I ship my skis and luggage back to Roanoke at the end of the trip?

A: Probably. Check with the hotel/condo and your preferred shipping company.

Q: The airlines are ripping me off with their luggage charges. I'll just stuff my ski bag with clothes. It will protect the skis better anyway and nobody will care.

A: The airlines are fickle about such things. You might wind up paying for an oversize bag, rather than the price of a ski bag.

Q: I have a double ski bag, so it is reasonable that I be able to check two boot bags with it and pay the price of two ski bags w/ boot bags. Correct?

A: You never know what the airline or the person at the counter will do. It is up to the traveler to check about this. If you get to the ticket counter and they don't react as you expected, please don't make a big scene over a few extra dollars in baggage charges, as there are lots of other Ski Club members behind you trying to get checked in. Document everything that happened and you can fight with the airlines as long as you want when you get back from the trip.