2014 CSE Ski Day Info

Following is information for this year’s CSE ski day. Please read all of this if you’re going so we’re on the same page.

1. Mountain conditions

There’s a lot of snow on the mountain this year – around 100 inches right now at the base and much more at the top. If you’re going to be adventuresome and go off the groomed runs, ski in a group and stay a good distance from trees (trees can eat people). Please stay in bounds – we don’t want an article about our ski trip in the NYT. This is spring skiing – relatively warm (temperatures in the low thirties) with a few inches of snow expected during the day.

Please wear a helmet if possible. If you don’t have one you might be able to borrow one. Hall Health sells them for $35 – very cheap:


Dress in layers so you can remove a layer when you get too warm etc. It’s a mountain; we could have snow, rain, hail, and sun – all within 5 minutes.

2. Getting there and parking

The drive should be pretty clear. However, if signs state that traction tires are required your car must have tires marked M+S on the side; most of them do here (these are called “all season” tires). You should have chains with you in case they’re required (although probably low likelihood tomorrow) – police can stop you if you don’t have them when they’re required -- unless you have four-wheel drive. You can check the state of the road in this link:


In general, the roads are in good condition and clear until the last few miles when you head up to the pass. We are looking for a few inches of snow overnight plus a few more during the day, so roads should be relatively clear. Overall, you should plan on 1h45m to Stevens from your last pickup.

Be careful to follow speed limits on route 2 on the way there. You go through a lot of little towns that have slower speed limits – just pay attention so you don’t get a ticket.

As you drive up to the top of Steven’s pass (the last few miles is most of the climb to 4K feet), at the top you’ll see the lifts and a building ahead of you on the right. There’s a large parking lot before the building – I recommend that you go past the building(s) and then take the next right into the parking lots there (called the A, B, and E lots – see link below). They usually have somebody directing cars to parking spaces in the lot.
3. The layout

There are three buildings at Steven’s pass: the Pacific Crest Lodge (at the base of Big Chief run), the Granite Peaks Lodge (in the middle), and the Tye Creek Lodge on the west side. They’re all within a few steps of each other. We’ll mainly be hanging out at the Pacific Crest Lodge, which should be directly on your left when you enter if you park where I recommended. There’s a map here:

http://www.stevenspass.com/Stevens/the-mountain/base-area-map.aspx

On the second floor of the Pacific Crest Lodge is the Iron Goat – it’s a Pizza Restaurant and that’s where we’ll be hanging out all day. The restaurant will be closed to the public and only for our use. While it’s not locked, I usually leave my shoes and spare clothes in the room. There is also a little sports shop on the first floor of the Pacific Crest Lodge if you need to buy anything.

If you absolutely must have your tall nonfat laté with room :), there’s a coffee bar on the first floor of the Granite Peaks Lodge.

4. For those needing lift tickets

Ricardo will be in the Iron Goat in the early morning until around 9:30 handing out the lift tickets (no money required now for any of this – we’ll collect checks next week). There will be a signup sheet too – please add your name to the list so we know you got your ticket. Also, I have some armbands we wear to try to make it easier to find other CSE skiers on the slopes – take one if they’re available and put it on (please return them at the end of the day). If you get there later, find the lift tickets in an envelope and sign up, etc.

At Steven’s Pass the tickets are RFID – just zip it into a jacket pocket and when you to go the gate in front of the lift the gate will open for you.

5. For those doing rentals and/or lessons.

Rental equipment is on the first floor of Tye Creek Lodge. Door to rentals is on the left of the staircase tower. They’ll have your equipment ready there under your name. If you’re doing rentals only, pick up your pass first in the Trophy Room and then head to the rental center.

If you’re doing a lesson package, please arrive by 9:00 and go directly to the Tye Creek Lodge rental center -- your ticket for lifts + lesson + rental will be waiting for you at rentals. Please get to the ski school at least 30 minutes before the lesson (at 10:00). Ski School is near the base of the Daisy (beginner) chair.

6. Lunch!!
There will be a free pizza lunch in the Iron Goat (our room) in the Pacific Crest Lodge. Lunch will start around 11:45 or so. I’ve ordered veggie, pepperoni, and sausage pizzas, and pitchers of soft drinks, but they’ll make whatever we want on the fly if somebody has a special request.

7. “Ski with the chair”

Not the chair lift, silly – the CSE chair! Find me on the mountain and ask for a chocolate -- first come first served -- if you can catch me :).

8. Party After, Dude

The backside lifts and 7th Heaven close at 3:30 and the rest close at 4:00. At 3:30, for those who want to relax or have a drink of your favorite (non-drivers only please if your favorite is a beer), there will be a no-host bar back in the Iron Goat.

Should be a great day – Steven’s has had a ton of snow and we could see a little fresh stuff on Friday. See you all on the slopes on Friday. Be safe!

Whoohoo!!

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