

# Copper Mountain, CO

March 18 - 24

Twenty-two members of the Jacksonville Ski Club (JSC) headed west to Colorado for a fun-filled adventure at the wonderful Copper Mountain Resort. Our trip was a 6-night stay in the heart of Center Village at Copper, just steps away from the slopes and 2 high-speed quad lifts.

We traveled by air via Southwest to Denver on a direct nonstop flight. We then boarded a private motorcoach for transportation to our resort. Our departure flight was somewhat early, but that gave us plenty of time after we arrived to Copper Mountain to get checked in, pick up ski rentals, get acquainted with Center Village, and enjoy a nice dinner together. The Trip Leader arranged for a delicious BBQ dinner with all of the fixins' at Eagle BBQ in a private room. There was plenty of food and by all accounts nobody left hungry.

Our group enjoyed some nice spring-skiing with daytime temps topping out just around 50 degrees and lows dropping to the lower 30's at night. Most days were bright and sunny with good visibility and the snow held up fairly well, although towards the end of the day, it did tend to get a little sticky at the base of the mountain. Most of us got out early to get in our runs before the heat affected the snow too much. Some stayed out all day until the lifts were closed.

Our condos were located in the Village Square complex located in Center Village. The units were fairly large and well-appointed. The walk to the lifts was literally only a couple of minutes. Ski rentals were arranged through Peak Sports located directly at the base of the mountain and only steps to the American Eagle lift. They also provided overnight storage of skis, which made things very convenient.

On Tuesday, some of our travelers took a guided snow-shoeing tour with representatives from Copper Mountain. The tour took them on a 3-mile loop around a portion of one of the mountains and it took about 2 ½ hours. All who went on the tour really enjoyed it and got a lot of exercise at the same time. Another group of folks enjoyed a day of snowmobiling in the back country around Copper Mountain and adjacent peaks and valleys. Several travelers also took advantage of the Summit Stage, a free shuttle service, and ventured into the quaint, little town of Frisco and enjoyed the many bars, restaurants, and shops on Main Street.

Thursday evening was an Après Ski at Jack's Slopeside Grill and Bar at the base of the mountain in Center Village. Several travelers attended and we enjoyed our last night together listening to a great singing duo that performed during the Happy Hour.

Friday was our departure day and our private coach picked us up at 8:30 a.m. and we headed towards Denver to catch our flight home. As fate would have it, it actually snowed the day we were leaving, but fortunately the weather did not cause any travel delays getting to Denver or for our departing flight.

Our flight home was very enjoyable and uneventful and we arrived to JAX on schedule. By all accounts this was a very successful trip that was enjoyed by all who attended.

By: Steve Bratcher – Trip Leader