

Telluride Trip February 1-8, 2020

48 members of the Jacksonville Ski Club traveled to Telluride Colorado for the 2020 season ski trip. We flew out of Jax on American Airlines with a layover in Dallas. Then arrived into a very small airport in Montrose. We had 5 private vans pick us up, upon arriving to a bright warm sunny day. We stopped at City Market grocery store & Cork's Liquor store on our way to the resort. With little over an hour ride, we made it safely to the mid-mountain village of Telluride. We arrived at Bear Creek Lodge which consists of 2, 3 & 4 bedroom condos. The check in process went very efficient and quick, as the staff welcomed us with a cheese and wine gathering. Corky & I then handed out the lift tickets to everyone.

Although the resort was not a true ski-in & ski-out, it was just a short 2-minute shuttle ride that took us to the slopes. Some of us had a ground floor unit, as others were on 2nd, 3rd & 4th floors with gorgeous views of the mountains and slopes. Each condo had a balcony. There was also a large living room area, dining room, full size kitchen, nice size foyers with a stop & drop for our skis, poles, and other ski equipment. All of the members were pleased with the floorplan layout, size of the rooms & the décor of the condos.

After getting settled in our rooms, most of us took a shuttle and headed over to Boot Doctor's Ski Shop located at the base of mid-mountain Village. The employees there were very accommodating in helping us select the rental equipment. We then brought our ski equipment back to our condos & got settled in for the night.

Sunday....we woke up to a very nice blue-bird warm sunny day. Some of us met at the bottom of the lift at 9 am to get in the 1st run. The temperature got up to about 38 degrees. We had a great ski day as most of us went up on Chair 14 to the very top at over 12,000 ft. This was a beautiful view from the "SEE FOREVER" slope. After skiing, we headed back to our condos to prepare to watch the Superbowl. The entire group headed back out to mid-mountain village & went to "Tomboy Tavern". There were plenty of appetizers ordered...wings, truffle fries, nachos, hummus & veggie plates. We had a wonderful time watching the game on a few big screen tv's and were happy to see a win by Kansas City.

Monday...we were back on the slopes in the morning. The temperature had dropped with some clouds rolling in as well as being very wind. Once we returned from skiing, some of us decided to meet up at the Mountain Lodge Resort restaurant called "The View" for apre ski. That night, everyone was on their own for dinner. Some of us went to the village area or others ventured in-town for dinner. And some even stayed in their condo's & cooked dinner and stayed in.

Tuesday...Back out on the slopes. The temps dropped a little more & even in the single digits. It was cloudy, windy & pretty cold day.

But, after a fun day of skiing, we took the shuttle to the gondola's heading in-town for a "Pub Crawl". 1st starting at the "Smugglers Brew Pub", where most ate dinner and enjoyed some drinks. 2nd stop was at "The Buck", or also known as the Last Dollar Salon. This bar had various local beers on draft. Some people played darts as well. The 3rd & last place was at "the New Sheridan", the oldest bar in Telluride. Where we enjoyed each others company & had some more drinks. Lastly, we took the gondola ride back home & it was Negative 5 degrees!

Wednesday....Most were back on the slopes as it was a little more sunny, but the temperature was still a little cold. And some people took the day OFF from skiing. My group went strolling around/shopping in- town and had lunch. Others went snow-shoeing & even some did the Nordic track. Then for apre ski, most of us went to the very top of the gondola where there is a restaurant at 10,540 ft called Allred's. It was an amazing atmosphere & breath-taking views of the mountains...a great way to see the sunset.

Thursday... or as we call it..."Tu-Tu" Thursday :) This day was an ALL SNOW DAY.....about 8" total. We all got on the slopes dressed up in our colorful Tu-Tu's. It certainly brought alot of attention on the slopes. We all met up at "The Gorrano" restaurant at mid-mountain for lunch. Right after we took a group picture in front of the map, then went back out on the slopes.

Later, we all headed back in-town to have our group dinner at "High Pie Pizzeria". We enjoyed a pretzel appetizer, 2 different salads & lots of various pizzas. It was all delicious and no one left hungry. Afterwards a few went back to the condo's and some went back to "the Buck" to listen to live music.

Friday...Our last day! Most of us skied that day. It was mostly cloudy, but not as cold. After skiing, most of us had to drop off our rental equipment back at Boot Doctors ski shop in the village. Some people relaxed that night, while others ventured in-town for 1 last outing...either grabbing a bite to eat, having drinks or playing pool. What a great way to end the week!

Saturday....Our vans picked us up at 8 am & we left Bear Creek Lodge. It was a beautiful sunny morning as we were driving back to Montrose staring at the beautiful mountains. We even got to see the Coors Light Mountains. We had a layover in Dallas & then arrived back in Jacksonville alittle before 10 pm.

Overall, the week was filled with great ski conditions & fun times. It was a pleasure to be leading this trip with Corky again. We made more new friends and shared many unforgettable memories that will last a lifetime :)

Trip leaders,
Ana Yazdan & Corky Kegebein