

Travel Planning and

What to Bring for the 09/10 Season



Our wonderful area!

Golden is a nice little town of 4,500 people with another 4,500 people living in the outlying areas.

It's on the Trans Canada Highway near the BC, Alberta boundary and just 3 hour west of Calgary, Alberta. Golden is surrounded by 6 Mountain National Parks and numerous Provincial Parks. The Rockies, Purcell's and Selkirk's border the town and make it a scenic adventure stop on any trip, any season of the year. Chatter Creek is northwest of Golden and is surrounded by the Columbia/Clemenceau Ice fields 30km to the north, the Great Divide to the east, the Selkirks and Rogers Pass to the west, and the Bugaboos south of Golden.

Our community-run Whitetooth Ski Area changed hands and has grown to become the well known Kicking Horse Mountain Resort. Your flight day is a good opportunity to warm up at KHMR for Chatter Creek and gets you to Golden the day before, a recommended idea. Check out the conditions by visiting them on-line at www.kickinghorse.com

There are many delightful accommodations in the area from motels and hotels to B&B's and European style front-country lodges. The Golden Tourism Association has a great web-site www.tourismgolden.com , or contact the office and we can help you find your appropriate accommodations.

Helicopter Transfer

Flight Times

Departure times are important and rigid. Flights leave in the afternoon and must leave on schedule to be completed 30 minutes before dark due to daylight flying regulations.

Airport arrival times are Mountain Standard Time (Calgary time). Group participants will receive their information from their Group Organisers. These times are also noted on

our web site http://www.chattercreek.ca/time_to_arrive.php. **The first guests to sign in are the first to fly in.** The same order is retained for return flights to Golden.

All guests must attend a helicopter safety briefing before the flight into Chatter Creek.

If you are late, the flight will have departed. Call us at 1-877-311-7199 or local 250-344-7199 if you are delayed for any reason.

Do not wait for lost baggage in Calgary if you will miss your helicopter flight in Golden. When found, your baggage will be sent on to Golden.

Flight times may be subject to weather delays. At the latest, return flight times to the Donald Airport are 3-4 hours later than your flight time shown.

We expect most flights to go on schedule.

Donald Airport

Since the 07/08 season we have changed our airport to Donald, BC. The airport is now located 24 km west of Golden on Highway #1, to view driving directions please follow this link, http://www.chattercreek.ca/get_here.php

Personal Equipment

What to Bring

- 1 pair of powder skis, poles, boots, (no ski bag)
- *rental fat skis/poles available at lodge*
- OR 1 snowboard and boots (no board bag) –
- Quality goggles and gloves or mitts
- *(2 pair gloves/mitts suitable for powder skiing)*
- 1 or 2 piece ski suit with powder cuffs
- *suitable for all conditions and temperatures*
- Sun glasses and sun screen
- Layers to put under or over ski suit
- *to peel off if you get too warm or add if you are cold*
- Bathing suit for hot tub - *towels provided*
- Small flashlight with new batteries
- *in case of power failure or for late night walks*
- Light slippers or shoes to wear in the lodge and between lodges
- Comfortable lodge wear - Jogging pants, sweat or T shirts are great
- *we're informal*

- PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES - carry in 2 places if your life depends on it!
- Money for lodge purchases. We take Visa, MasterCard, cheques, traveller's cheques & cash
- Video or still camera with lots of film
- Your favourite CD to share

We recommend you wear bulky winter clothing on the helicopter

What NOT to Bring

- Don't bring beer, wine, alcohol or fancy clothes
- Don't bring electrical appliances, we supply hair dryers - *ask the bartender*
- Don't bring too much stuff! Less is more at Chatter Creek.

Luggage

Please bring a **small soft-sided sports bag** with NO WHEELS or hard bottoms. As we are flying by helicopter to and from the lodge, the bag has to be flexible into odd shaped baggage areas. (**Wheeled bags don't stuff.**) Consider packing the allowed sports bag in a wheeled bag for ease at commercial airports and leaving the outer wheeled bag in your car at the Donald Airport.

Your small sports bag should be about:

~ **12 inches by 12 inches by 26 inches** and should not weigh more than **25 pounds**. This figure has been decided after discussion with many guests. If you are over this weight check the "What to Bring" section again.

~ Boots are **not** included in this weight and will be packed separately in CCML boot bags.

~ Helmets can be worn or packed in boot bags

~ 1 set of skis, 1 set of poles or 1 snowboard are also **not** included in the 25 pounds weight limit.

We will weigh all bags, equipment & guests.

Alcohol will not be transported by helicopter. We have a fully equipped bar at Chatter Creek.

No carryon luggage is allowed unless you wear a very small fanny pack.

Wheeled, Hard-Sided, Snowboard & Hockey Bags

We will ask owners of ALL wheeled bags to repack them into our soft sided bags. Please remove skis and boards from their bags and leave the bags in your vehicle. Snowboard bindings higher than 2 inches must be removed for the flights and packed in your luggage.

What to Wear & Carry on the Helicopter

The helicopter pilot will conduct a safety briefing. If an emergency were to occur while under the care of Alpine Helicopters, remember that Golden will be in the middle of winter. *Be prepared for the unusual! Please wear the following on the helicopter (it will also make your luggage lighter).*

- WINTER BOOTS (no sandals or running shoes)
- Winter clothing including a warm hat and gloves
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES - Carry in your pocket if needed regularly!
- Medication for air sickness / vertigo and a bag if needed for the flight
- Camera for fabulous scenery
- Energy bar, candy bar - **no alcohol in the helicopter**

Please refrain from smoking within 10 minutes of departing in the helicopter

SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON THE AIRCRAFT EVER!

RENTAL SKIS: "Fat" skis are available to rent at \$25.00 per day plus taxes. You are able to request skis upon completing your on-line account, remember to add your height and weight. We offer Volkl Explosives, Atomic Sugar/ Heli Daddys' and K2 Pontoons. We have a couple of pairs of 150cm skis and only 2 snowboards which should be reserved.

Ski poles are always supplied with rental skis

Lost & Found

Gloves, goggles, ski poles, toques etc cannot be returned unless they are marked for identification. The dry room has too much identical gear to make unidentified small items returnable. Please remember to check dresser drawers and under the beds, and collect and check all your gear before you fly back to Golden, especially **Passports** if you have a border to cross.

Massage Bookings

If a massage is important to you, please make prior bookings by completing this form and ending via fax or email to the office, <http://www.chattercreek.ca/pdf/massage.pdf> . We plan to have four massage therapists at the lodges this winter but still need prior appointments to serve you best.

Tipping

Guests who appreciate the staff's work during their stay may consider a voluntary gratuity when paying their final lodge bills. Usual amounts vary between \$50 and \$200 per skier per trip. These are shared equally between lodge staff (excluding owners).

Have a check list if you need it, see you soon!

Chatter Creek Mountain Lodges

Box 333, Golden BC, V0A 1H0, Canada

Ph.877.311.7199 or 250.344.7199 Fax.250.344.2229

www.chattercreek.ca