



SkiChinaPeak.com

Winter 2021 - 2022 - Issue #12

ChinaPeakTimes.com



## Spend Your Time on the Slopes, Not On The Road or in Lift Lines

What do skiers and boarders look for when planning a day, weekend or extended vacation to enjoy themselves?

Let's start with a four hour or less drive to their destination. Their ultimate day would see clear blue skies with slopes groomed to a lovely corduroy texture, featuring no crowding and fast moving lift lines, quick access to a variety of food and beverages, all at an affordable price.

Wow. This is a perfect description for China Peak Mountain Resort.

The fun that visitors have at China Peak is quite possibly the best kept secret in the California winter sports community. It is a

### Excellent Rental Shop and Repair Facilities

"There's really no need to stop anywhere else to for your rental equipment and then schlep all that gear with you," says Cori Jones, Rental Shop Manager. "Our rental shops are conveniently located in the base area close to the lifts."

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"My crew is amazing and knowledgeable, putting a major emphasis on customer service. From beginners to pros, toddlers to adults, skiers or boarders; we've got you covered!"

Seasonal rentals are only \$312 for ages 13+ and \$234 for children 12 and under.

*(continued on page 31)*

fact it is the only Central Sierra resort on the west slope offering terrain, acreage and elevations comparable to Tahoe ski resorts.

Bring your friends and/or the whole family to enjoy China Peak, from those that have just learned to walk to grandparents enjoying their retirement. When you escape to the mountains, you have a unique experience that will let you forget the busy and stressful life at home.

*(continued on page 25)*



Food & Bar Manager Tristan Cohee with his friends at the Buckhorn Bar, a very popular spot.

## Food & Bar Service, Concert Series Set For China Peak Landing Summer 2022

In 2019, when China Peak purchased Rancheria Enterprises at Huntington Lake, the resort's owners thought they had a nice marina, gas station and general store. It's turned out to be quite a lot more.

ing Partner. "It wasn't until we spent more time at the marina did we realize the site had a lot more potential."

The first big discovery was the sizeable land located just west of the marina that was part of their U.S. Forest Service Special Use Permit.

"It was originally a campground with five campsites seldom used, with the land dominated by hundreds of dead or dying trees that didn't provide much access to the lake. With U.S.F.S. approval we removed

*(continued on page 21)*



The Grand Opening of the new Boat House at China Peak Landing is set for May, 2022, featuring a brand new food truck serving a variety of menu items as well as an all new deck and bar right on the water's edge.

"Ross, Chris and I were fine with the prospect of having the boat slips, a general store and a gas station to supplement our winter business," said Tim Cohee, Manag-

## Buckhorn Bar & Grill One of Skiing's Best Hot Spots

Since it's major remodel a few years ago the Buckhorn Bar & Grill, located where three lifts converge mid mountain, has become one of the most popular on mountain hot spots in all of skiing in California.

"There are over 20 resorts in California and Nevada, and only a few offer the type of experience we have at Buckhorn," said Tristan Cohee, Food & Bar Manager for the resort. "You have to really search to find an outdoor setting with the vibe we've created, all overlooking Huntington Lake. It's become the place to be in winter throughout the Central California region."

When Sierra Summit was purchased in 2010, the facility was called Midway, with

*(continued on page 25)*

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# Race Team Names New Head Coach and Expanded Schedule

Dennis Lewis, China Peak Ski Team Board President, announced that Anna Cole is the new Head Coach of the race team for the 2021-2022 season.

Coach Cole comes to China Peak after being in charge of the U10/U12 race program at the Sugar Bowl Ski Team and Academy.

After graduating from the China Peak Race Team in 2015, Coach Cole went on to a successful race career at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she discovered her passion for coaching while working with the Diamond Peak Ski Team.



A moment of laughter after a successful race.

From there she coached race teams at Squaw Valley and Sugar Bowl. Lewis said that everyone who knows Anna says the same thing – she has boundless energy, loves ski racing and will inspire the China Peak racers.

When asked about returning to China Peak, Anna said that she is “beyond excited to come home to the mountain that raised me. I am



All the hard work pays off with podium finishes.

looking forward to passing along my passion for ski racing to this next generation.”

The China Peak Race Team is comprised of about 50 young racers ranging in age from five to fifteen. There is a Developmental Team for new athletes to learn the



Group of China Peak Race Team members stand under a sign at Mammoth Mountain during break.

unique set of skills needed to navigate a race course at high speed. From there, skiers graduate on to the traveling team where they compete against racers from the other Central Series teams – Bear Valley, Dodge Ridge and Yosemite. Starting at age 14,



Fun competition. China Peak Mountain Resort hosts the only Super G speed race in the series.



The China Peak Race Team works hard to enhance their collective skills and compete together.

the competition expands to include more distant venues like Mammoth and Squaw Valley (now Palisades Tahoe).

At the end of the season, the team’s focus moves to the regional Championships where China Peak racers compete head-to-head with the best competitors from all across the West.

“The move to bring Coach Cole here is part of long-term plan we started four years



Young racers keep up their winning ways.

ago,” said Lewis. “We decided we needed to reimagine the team from the ground up. We were determined to return China Peak as the powerhouse in ski racing for the region.”

Over the past few years, the Race Team has brought on new coaches and adopted new teaching techniques used by the US Ski Team



Former China Peak Race Team member Anna Cole is the new Head Coach of the race team for the 2021-2022 season. “I am beyond excited to come home to the mountain that raised me,” she stated.

including the expanded use of modern technology to demonstrate and drive home the skills necessary to win at every level. The team has invested in capital improvements and equipment upgrades to help each racer excel.

Coach and Board member Rob Donnelly

remarked that, “We are all so proud of our racers and we want to make sure that they all have everything they need to be successful and have a blast at racing.”

You can see the China Peak Race Team training every weekend under Chair Two or on Fire Bowl. If you see a group of kids in

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## CHINA PEAK TIMES

# A Variety of Food Offerings Await Those Out and About in the Region



Blue Sky Cafe



Hungry Hut



The Inn at China Peak Restaurant



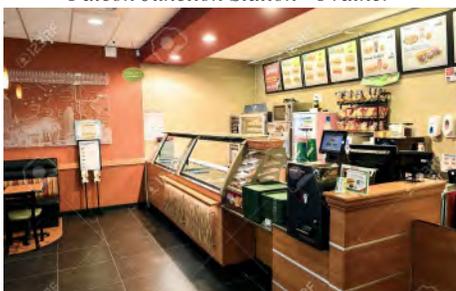
Loma Vista Food Mart and Fuel



The Trading Post



Falcon Junction Station - Prather



Subway Sandwich Shop - Prather

**Blue Sky Café** has breakfast items, fresh sandwiches, salads, coffee drinks, shakes/smoothies and free WiFi near Bob's Market. ShaverBlueSkyCafe.com (559) 841-7106.

**Hungry Hut** has burgers, fries, shakes, and a breakfast menu with burritos, bagels, lox, fresh coffee and tea. (559) 841-3222

**The Inn at China Peak Restaurant** and **J.W.'s Bar** offer great food and libations. The **Buckhorn Bar and Grill**, at the base of Chair 2, offers hot sandwiches, and more with a full bar and a variety of beers on tap. Base area options include the **Day Lodge and Mainstream Station** with burgers, chili bowls, pizza, fries and more. Check out the new outdoor **Basecamp** at the bottom of Chair 1, with cocktails, brews and snacks. SkiChinaPeak.com (559) 233-2500.

**Loma Vista Gas Mart** includes a Mexican Food menu, Chester's Fried Chicken, Shaved Ice and Scoops of Ice Cream, cold beer and fountain drinks. (559) 841-5303.

**The Trading Post** is Shaver Lake's popular dining house. Enjoy a drink at the beautiful bar and then sit down to great food. Indoor and outdoor seating. (559) 841-5394

**Big Creek General Store** on Point Road in Big Creek, features delicious meals and has outdoor seating available, weather permitting. (559) 839-3332

**Shaver Lake Pizza** all pizzas made with fresh ingredients and covered with toppings. Beer is available. Offering great Calzones, salads, hot sandwiches and appetiz-

ers. ShaverLakePizza.com. (559) 841-7249

**Short Horn Bar and Grill** is locals favorite place to meet, eat, drink, dance and chat. Great cheeseburgers, fries, other sandwiches and cold drinks. They have the only pool table in town. (559) 841-6464.

**Shaver Pub 'n Grub** is known for atmosphere and drinks, with burgers, pastrami sandwich, fish & chips and chicken tacos. Catch sporting events on 4 TV's with Direct TV NFL Sunday Ticket. (559) 841-4411.

**Pizza Factory - Prather** features "real hand tossed pizza", delicious salads, a variety of pasta, hot or cold sandwiches and cold beer or fountain drinks. (559) 855-2800.

**Velescos Mexican Restaurant** in Prather features delicious Mexican style meals. Stop by on your way up and down the mountain for breakfast or dinner. (559) 855-6565

**Subway** is in the Prather Canyon Forks Center. Offers sandwiches or salads and breakfasts items. (559) 855-7827. Visit Subway.com

**Falcon Junction Station** is a Auberry Rd. and Highway 168, offering Krispy Krunchy Chicken, deli sandwiches, a Flavor Shot fountain machine, Coffee Beanery freshly brewed coffee, fishing tackle, outdoor/camping supplies, groceries, ATM, fuel and a beer cave. (559) 855-8800.

**Shaver Lake Coffee and Deli** offers chunky bread, breakfast and deli lunch menu. Coffee drinks and hot chocolate available. Ice cream selections. Sit indoors or outdoors. (559) 841-3555.



Shaver Lake Pizza



Short Horn Bar and Grill



Shaver Pub 'n Grub



Pizza Factory - Prather



Big Creek General Store and Restaurant



Velescos Mexican Restaurant - Prather



Shaver Lake Coffee and Deli



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Brett Taylor



Above are four visitors riding the quad lift with a view of snow surrounding Huntington Lake in the background. Always remember to be very careful when you are getting on and off the ski lift.



## While on the Slopes, Remember to Have Fun, Ski in Control and Be Safe

Please keep in mind the safety of yourself and those around you at all times. Your patronage is appreciated and your frequent visits are encouraged.

**Freestyle terrain** may contain jumps, hits, ramps, banks, fun boxes, jibs, rails, half pipes, quarter pipes, snow cross, bump terrain and other constructed or natural terrain features. **PRIOR** to using the area you are responsible for checking it out and obeying all instructions, warnings and signs. Freestyle skills require maintaining control on the ground, and in the air.

**Watch for the Orange Oval**, a symbol, which identifies freestyle terrain on the hill. Check out the sample signage and vocabulary to make sure you're up to speed on the basics. **Smart Style** is a terrain park safety initiative, which you need to understand in order to use terrain parks safely.

### Four Main Points of Smart Style

**Make a Plan** - Always make a plan for each feature you want to use. Your speed, approach and takeoff will directly affect your maneuver and landing.

**Look Before Your Leap** - You are responsible for inspecting Freestyle Terrain before attempting to use it.



The features vary in size and change constantly due to snow conditions, weather, usage, grooming and time of day. Do not jump blindly. Use a spotter when necessary.

**Easy Style It** - Always ride or ski in control and within your ability level. Do not attempt Freestyle Terrain unless you have sufficient ability and experience to do so safely. You control the degree of difficulty you will encounter in using Freestyle Terrain, both on the ground and in the air.

**Respect Gets Respect** - Respect Freestyle Terrain and others. Only one person on a fea-

ture at a time. Wait your turn and call your start. Always clear the landing area quickly. Respect all signs and do not enter Freestyle Terrain or use features when closed.

Use of Freestyle Terrain exposes you to the risk of serious injury or death. Inverted aerials are not recommended. You assume the risk!

### Heads up. Your responsibility code

Skiing can be enjoyed in many ways. At ski areas, you may see people using alpine snowboard, telemark, cross-country and other



specialized ski equipment, such as that used by disable or other skiers. Regardless of how you decide to enjoy the slopes, always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Observe the code listed below and share with other skiers the responsibility for a great skiing experience. Always stay in control, and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.

People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.

Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely. Know the code. It's your responsibility. This is a partial list. Be safety conscious.

Call (559) 233-2500 with questions.

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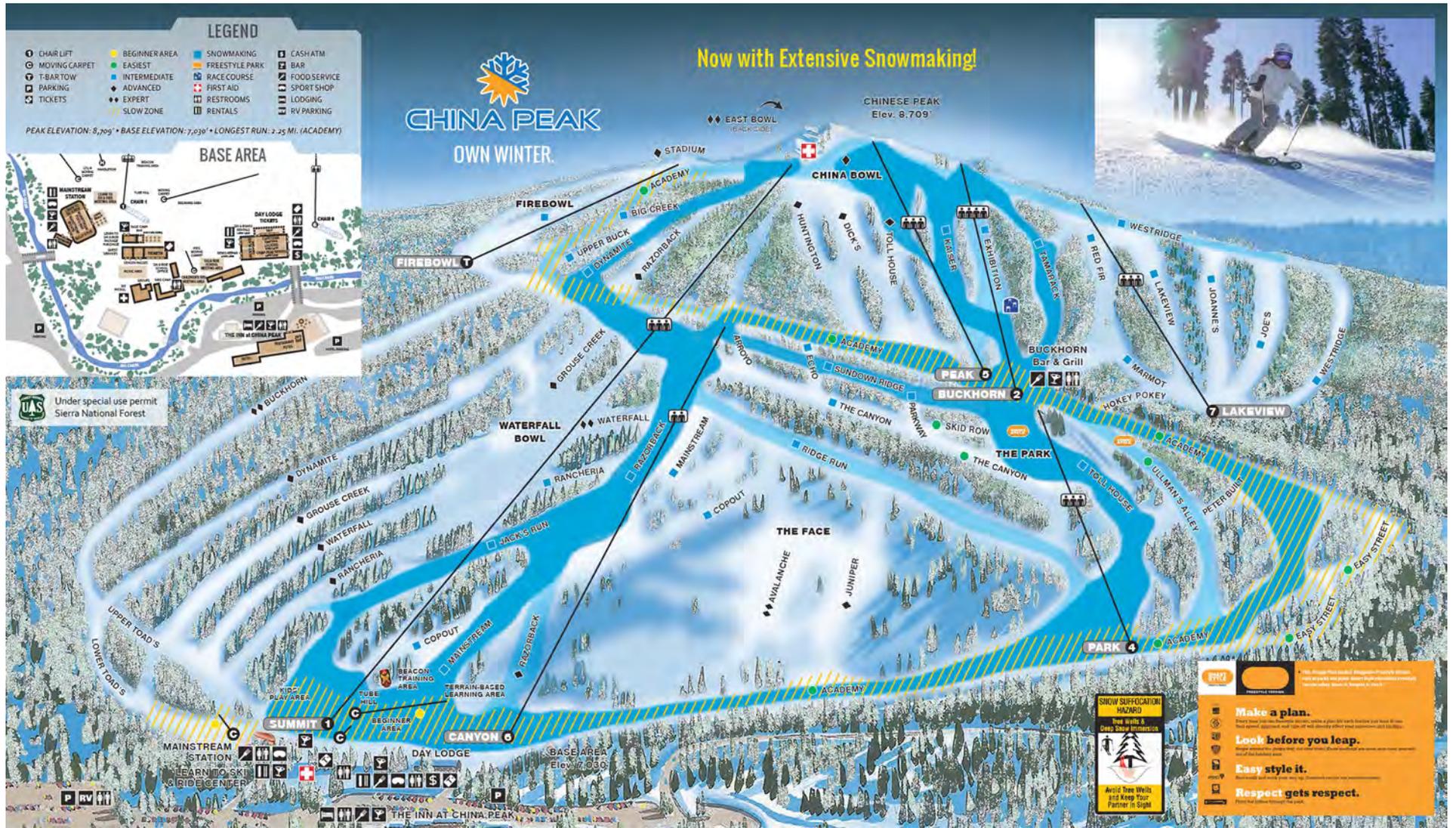
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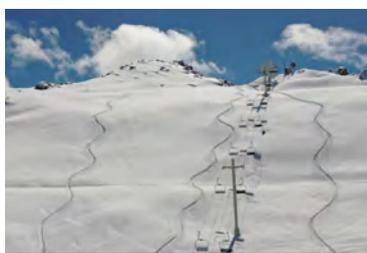
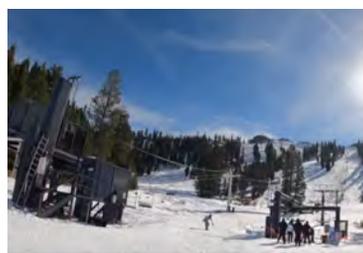
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# CHINA PEAK TIMES



|                         |                          |                          |                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Chair 1:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ● Academy - Upper       | ● Academy - Middle       | ■ Big Creek - Upper      | ■ Boulder Alley - Upper |
| ■ Boulder Alley - Lower | ◆ Buckhorn - Lower       | ◆ Buckhorn - Upper       | ◆ Dynamite - Lower      |
| ■ Dynamite - Upper      | ■ Mainstream - Lower     | ■ Razorback - Middle     | ◆ Grouse Creek - Lower  |
| ◆ Grouse Creek - Upper  | ◆ Rancheria - Lower      | ■ Rancheria - Upper      | ◆ Razorback - Upper     |
| ◆ Razorback - Lower     | ◆ Waterfall Bowl - Lower | ◆ Waterfall Bowl - Upper |                         |
| <b>Chair 2:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ■ Exhibition            | ■ Kaiser                 | ■ Red Fir East           | ■ Red Fir West          |
| ■ Tamarack              |                          |                          |                         |
| <b>Chair 4:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ■ Academy - Lower       | ● Easy Street/Lower      | ● Easy Street/Upper      | ● Peterbuilt            |
| ■ Tollhouse - Middle    | ● Ullmanns Alley - Lower | ● Ullmanns Alley - Upper |                         |
| <b>Chair 5:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ◆ China Bowl            | ◆ East Bowl              | ■ Huntington             | ■ Dick's                |
| <b>Chair 6:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ■ Arroyo                | ■ Canyon                 | ■ Tollhouse - Lower      | ■ Cop Out - Upper       |
| ■ Echo                  | ◆ Face - Avalanche       | ◆ Face - Juniper         | ■ Parkway               |
| ■ Ridge Run             | ● Skid Row               | ■ Sundown Ridge          |                         |
| <b>Chair 7:</b>         |                          |                          |                         |
| ■ Joanne's              | ■ Hokey Pokey            | ■ Lakeview               | ■ Marmot                |
| ■ Joe's                 | ■ Westridge              |                          |                         |
| <b>Kids Carpet:</b>     |                          | <b>Boulder Carpet:</b>   |                         |
| <b>Juniper Carpet:</b>  |                          |                          |                         |





Above are Marci Winter, left, and Julie Winter, Volunteer Ski Patrol Director. Contact Julie to volunteer to work along the paid ski patrol staff in making sure that guests have an enjoyable and safe visit.

## Join the China Peak Volunteer Ski Patrol and Help Make a Difference

Do you have what it takes to be a China Peak Volunteer Ski Patrol? The group is always looking for good qualified candidates to join their team.

Anyone interested in serving the community, a willingness to work hard and investing into our team is invited to apply. As a result of each members commitment to the team, openness to personal challenge and growth plus service to the community, they develop lifelong friendships.

Patrol is a place where team members capitalize on everyone's strengths and support each other's weaknesses.

Benefits are:

- An adventure of a lifetime
- Experience the great outdoors
- A family friendly atmosphere
- Opportunity for leadership
- Personal growth
- Being a part of something great
- Physical fitness at 7000' to 9000'

China Peak Ski Patrol has nearly 100 paid and volunteer members. Each year the Patrol Family continues to grow. For many, this has been a dream come true. Do you have a passion for skiing/ snowboarding? Do you have a passion for service?

Do you enjoy a great family atmosphere?

Being a China Peak Volunteer Ski Patrol is an adventure of a lifetime, leading to a lifetime of adventure. If you have what it takes to join the China Peak Ski Patrol, contact Julie Winter (Volunteer Ski Patrol Director) at [director@chinapeakvolunteerskipatrol.org](mailto:director@chinapeakvolunteerskipatrol.org) or at 559-360-6025.

### YAP – YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

China Peak Volunteer Ski Patrol is looking to the future of the ski mountain sports community with its industry leading Young Adult Program.

This program provides leadership opportunities to young women and men beginning at the age of 15 years old. The YAP program is for qualified candidates 15 – 17 years of age.

You will go through the same rigorous training as the adult patrollers and be treated as an equal to the team with great leadership opportunities.

If you are interested, contact Julie Winter (Volunteer Ski Patrol Director) at [director@chinapeakvolunteerskipatrol.org](mailto:director@chinapeakvolunteerskipatrol.org) or at 559-360-6025. If you are a minor, we would need parental approval prior to joining our team.

## The Mighty Mountain Tube Hill is Back and Better for 2021/22

The next best winter activity after skiing and snowboarding is of course: tubing! China Peak's tube hill is located above the Beginner's Carpet in the base area for everyone to see!

It all starts with a moving carpet ride to the top. You then select a lane. Next a gentle push from the China Peak staff will propel you on your way down the hill.

The tube hill is open weekends and holidays from 11 am-3 pm. Be sure to check [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com)'s *The Latest* link to make sure the Tube Hill is open on the weekend you wish to come visit.

The Tube Hill is particularly great for family or friends that do not want to ski or board, but do want to come with you on your adventure.

So come on up to China Peak with them and you can enjoy the Tubing Hill while others take to the slopes.

"Tubing has become a huge growth area for resorts across the country, and we expect the same at China Peak," remarked Tim Cohee, Managing Partner.

Runs are groomed daily, with high "walls" and a small hill below to stop you.

This is all-time fun for all ages. When you want to take a break, enjoy the snack bar offering delicious food, hot coffee or cocoa and adult beverages.

Children must be at least 48" tall to snow tube. Open weekends and holidays. The cost is \$20 for one hour, \$30 for 90 minutes and \$40 for two hours. Black Pass holders save \$5 on any session. Tickets available at Guest Services only and. Tickets are non-refundable and non-transferable.

All participants are required to sign a

tube hill release. Tube Hill facts and rules:

- 400 feet long
- Runs are groomed daily, with high "walls" and a small hill below to stop you.
- Moving carpet is about a 2 minute ride.
- One person per tube.
- All riders must use their feet to test their speed and to slow tube to avoid going over the snow barrier in the finish area.
- Riders must be at least 5 feet tall to ride in their own large tube.
- Riders under 5 feet tall must ride in smaller tubes (if available).
- Riders under 5 feet tall who are not riding in a smaller tube must ride at the same time as adults over five feet tall as to allow them to slow the tube speed. Both the rider under 5 feet tall and the rider over 5 feet tall ride in their own tubes with the taller rider holding onto the shorter tube rider's tube.
- Even small tube riders must be able to drag their feet to control speed or ride with a taller person in another tube at the same time.
- Tubes are provided by China Peak, no personal tubes or sleds.
- Riders must be at least 5 years old.
- Riders must be able to get in and out of the tubes unassisted.
- Snow boots only, sorry no ski boots.
- Make sure clothing items are secure.
- Helmets are recommended.

Remember to keep everyone warm and cozy with snow boots, water proof pants, jacket, hat, gloves as well as goggles or glasses and a great appetite for tubular fun!

Snow tubing is the perfect way to bring your family together for a fun afternoon of sliding down the mountain.



The Mighty Mountain Tube Hill at China Peak Mountain Resort offers a fun filled alternative to skiing and snowboarding for all ages. Join your friends or family for an memorable adventure.

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Spending quality time with the family is important. Consider teaching the kids how to build a snowman. Anyone can complete this task and yes, the results will vary. But everyone has fun!

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## Do You Want to Build a Snowman? This is a Wonderful Family Activity

Shaver and Huntington Lakes are an easy drive from the Central San Joaquin Valley. So take a winter day, pack the family into the family vehicle and head for the snow covered terrain in the Sierra.

Bring a shovel, a scarf, buttons, carrots, coal, an old coat, a silly hat and use them all in building a snowman!

Never built a snowman. That's okay. What could be more simple than rolling up three snowballs and stacking them with the largest as the base on the bottom and the smallest on top for the figure's head.

Next you can go wild with your artistic side as you help your new friend create their d. Hey, they need a face, arms, clothes and who knows what!

Check for snow that's moist and packable. Scoop some up and press it together. If it easily forms into a ball, you can make a snowman. Build your snowman on a flat surface. Try to put him in the shade. This will help the guy last longer. And who doesn't like a snowman who can last longer.

Roll up your snowman by packing a snowball with your hands for the bottom section. Continue adding to it and make it into a round shape. Wear warm, waterproof gloves to protect your hands from handling cold snow.

Create a smaller middle section and put it onto the bottom ball. Make sure to center it on the bottom. Form a one foot snowball for the head and put it on top. Then pack some snow between the sections to the

snowman a uniform look.

For a little different look, create a really large fat body and put a head on top of it.

Now the real fun begins: bringing your creation to life. Stick the traditional carrot in his face for a nose. For the eyes, use charcoal, buttons or pebbles. Make a mouth with a row of pebbles, charcoal or a couple of sticks.

Place two sticks for the snowman's arms. If you want, put a shirt or coat around the snowman's body. Top him off with a hat, scarf, a tie, sunglasses, or other accessories to make your snowman stand out from others.



Why not come on up and enjoy an adventurous weekend in the snowy slopes with your family.

## Great Opportunity - Learn to Ski or Ride Package - Ages 4 and up - Just \$269 (online)

Back by popular demand is the China Peak 3 Day Learn to Ski or Ride Program. Pick any three days and they do not have to be consecutive days.

If you are a *First Time Skier or Rider*, visit [LearnToSkiAndRide.com](http://LearnToSkiAndRide.com) for information about your first day on the snow for just \$269 (online)!

This program includes three days of rentals, a group lesson for each day and a beginner ticket valid for the moving carpet on all three days. Access to chairlifts is allowed during a lesson with an instructor.

Valid for beginners ages 4+. Participants can opt to upgrade for an additional fee to a chairlift ticket after 12 pm after completing their lesson.

After completing the third day you will receive an all mountain ticket to finish the day along with an ID card that gives you half-price tickets, rentals and group lessons for the remainder of the season.

The purchaser is committing to learn to either ski or snowboard, not both. If at any time during the three day program purchaser decides to switch to skiing or snowboarding, the program starts over and purchaser is required

to purchase a new three day package.

There is a special **Mini Lesson Package** is for future skiers. With Mom and/or Dad along for support and encouragement, the staff helps make the first time sliding as much fun as possible for the little one! Riding the kid's little moving carpet makes the first time fun and easy. This is for age 3 and includes lift ticket, ski equipment and a one hour lesson. Details available online at [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com)



# Perfecting Intermediate and Advanced Turning

Snow skiing is an outdoor activity which is effected by several variables. These include, but are not limited to, the weather, snow conditions, terrain and equipment.

For the purpose of this article an environment will be outlined, which keeps some of these variables at a constant. Take an average day at China Peak: Sunny, with little or no wind and temperatures in the 40's. The Tamarack trail is a great run on the upper mountain for you to work on the intermediate and advanced level turns.

A proper ski turn involves the elements of an athletic stance, with shoulders width apart and solid fore/aft and good side to side balance.

Then there is the question of body weight? Is it behind your heels, or are you standing over the front of the shins in a readied position? If the answer is yes to the latter then there is hope yet!

Hands are up and forward as if you are balancing a Peak Burger, chili fries and coke on a cafeteria tray. Hips are tall, you are not sitting on the toilette when skiing.

Chest and shoulders face down the hill with confidence and anticipation. Ankles are cocked, with shins pushed against the tongues of the boots, hips shoulder width, athletic stance, hips tall, shoulders rolled forward, hands wider than elbows and palms facing out allowing for pole touch or plant if necessary.

This is the body position of a skier. Muscle memory is a key component to skiing so it is important to find your position at the top of every run.

Now that you have the position, let's move to the turn. The turn will be broken down into three phases: beginning, middle and end. In the beginning of the turn, skis are pointed across the fall line to control speed. As skis cross the fall line you begin to apply pressure to the downhill ski, which is defined as the lower ski down the hill from your body.

If you are making a turn to the right it is your left ski, in contrast a turn to the left the downhill ski is your right ski. In this example, we will be turning right, or a left footer (right turn in skiing is a left



As skis cross the fall line, apply pressure to the downhill ski, the ski down hill from your body.

ski turn).

As you apply pressure to the downhill ski the side cut of the ski will initiate the turn. In this moment in time remember the balance portion of the body position. No longer in a standstill position you'll need to factor in a change in balance point from center, on balls of the feet, equal weight distribution, to shifting more pressure and weight on the outside foot, shin and ski.

With confidence and commitment, you move your body down the fall line, stand strong on your downhill ski and prepare for it to come around.

As the beginning of the turn becomes the middle or the apex, speeds will increase because you are no longer going against the fall line. Forces of gravity will want to push you over in the middle of the turn because the apex has the most energy stored. Your equipment and body position are being tested by the speed and gravitational forces, pushing you against the downhill ski.

The key is to stand strong on the downhill ski and resist against the forces wanting to push you over. Hands, hips and shoulders driving through the apex. Your core is flexed and your body is skeletally stacked against the powers that be as your skis bend and begin to cross the fall line, entering the final stage of the turn.

The apex of the turn is like a loaded spring. Energy stored in one turn needs to be transferred to another. As you cross the fall line again, the tension and torque from the forces pushing you down begin to subside. The dynamic, angulated position your body is in at the apex of the turn gracefully moves upward and forward. Following your skis briefly in end of the turn (also called transition phase) weight gradually shifts from the left foot dominant downhill ski to the right footed new downhill ski. As you cross the fall line, body position in mind, you have just completed a turn and are ready for more.

Practice the body position for a ski turn at your home in the door frame or at work, with your hips pushing or resting against one side of the frame and your feet on other, keeping your shoulders level and hands forward.

Muscle memory and cross training are great ways to gear up for another winter and don't forget to enjoy the learning process as it should be rewarding as the end result.

*Nick Cohee, the middle son of Tim Cohee, was a World Cup ski racer, two time All-American at the University of Utah, North American Cup winner and Bronze Medalist at the U.S. National Alpine Skiing Championships. He was China Peak's Director of Skiing from 2016-2018 and is now an investment advisor in Reno, Nevada.*



Using the proper techniques when skiing or boarding is a key to having an enjoyable and safe experience when you are on the slopes. Practice makes perfect. Watch your speed. Stay in control.

## Plan Ahead to Ensure a Safe Trip When Heading to the Mountains

Be advised, you need chains and know how to drive with caution when venturing into the mountains during the winter. Getting safely from you home and back has a lot to do with planning.

For instance, you know your vehicle is in good condition. The tires are properly inflated and the fuel tank at least half full to avoid gas line freeze-up. Your cell phone with an extra battery and emergency numbers are nearby.

You have packed at least one flashlight, extra batteries, blankets, kitty litter, a shovel, gloves, hats, a couple snack bars or other food, water and any needed medication in your vehicle.

You know that if you become snow-

bound, stay with your vehicle. It provides temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to locate you.

Don't try to walk in a severe storm. It's easy to lose sight of your vehicle in blowing snow and become lost. Don't over exert yourself trying to push or dig a vehicle out of the snow.

Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled up window to signal distress. At night, keep the dome light on if possible. It uses little electricity and will make it easier for rescuers to find you.

But hey, no worries. You have prepared yourself for any extra adventures. So hit the slopes and enjoy yourself!



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# Rich Bailey Earns Nation's Top 2021 Ski Safety Award

Rich Bailey, whose career at China Peak started just shy of 50 years ago, was recently named 'Safety Champion' for 2021 by the National Ski Areas Association, the highest honor given by the organization that includes over 400 ski resorts nationwide as its members.

"We are honored to name Rich Bailey NSAA's Safety Champion for 2021. Rich's tenure in the industry is impressive, and he has used that time not only to strengthen the safety culture at China Peak but to share his knowledge with resorts throughout the country," said Kelly Pawlak, President and CEO of NSAA.

Rich began his career at China Peak in 1972 as a ski patroller, working summers as a Wilderness Ranger with the U.S. For-

## Gift Cards Are Available Online and at the Peak

China Peak gift cards are excellent gifts for skier or snowboarder friends and family. They are perfect for the holidays, birthdays and anniversaries or for someone who wants to learn to ski or snowboard.

Gift cards are available anytime, in any amount, at regular price. Cards are valid for all services at China Peak including lodging, season passes, lift tickets, food and beverage and sport shop merchandise.

Purchase gift cards online in denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100 and \$200 or more. Gift cards are delivered via USPS Priority Mail and are usually mailed out within two business days. Please allow 5-7 days for delivery. For expedited shipping, contact Guest Services at (559) 233-2500, extension 5100.

est Service.

After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he became Pro Patrol Director at Sugar Bowl Resort, located just off the crest of the Donner Pass near Lake Tahoe.

In 1983 he returned to China Peak, then named Sierra Summit, and has been there ever since, closing in on his 40 year anniversary in 2023.

His most recent title is Patrol and Risk Director, but he has played key management roles in grooming, snowmaking, tickets, parking and more throughout his ski business career. He has held numerous positions at the top level of both statewide and national ski patrol organizations, and remains active with the Huntington Lake Volunteer Fire Department.

He is also a license blaster and has been involved in every run clearing project at China Peak for decades.

Insurance companies rate ski resort safety records in a way similar to how auto insurance companies rate drivers - those with the best safety records get the lowest rates.

Of the 400 ski resorts in the country, China Peak is in the top 1% for both general liability and worker's compensation.

"From a safety perspective, we run a tight ship, both taking care of our customers and our staff. Our incredible safety record is directly influenced by a culture of safety, which has been created and maintained by Rich Bailey."

"There is no doubt he is among the top patrol and safety professionals in our industry," said Tim Cohee, China Peak's Managing Partner and General Manager.



The China Peak Snowmaking & Grooming Team. They make the snow, groom it, shape it, do just about everything with it. They work under the cloak of darkness, providing China Peak's guests with the most terrain open and the best surface possible with whatever hand they get dealt by Mother Nature. Starting from the left, sitting, Neil Buller; standing, Troy Cohee, snowmaking/grooming/terrain park manager; sitting on the blade, Chad Sainsbury, grooming supervisor; standing in front of the cat windshield, Sara Kruse; to the right of Sarah, Jose Soto; to the far right, Dustin Hargis; to the right of the snow cat, baseball hat, Dominik Herrold, snowmaking lead; to Dominik's right, Lane McLaren, the newest member. Not in photo, Blake Blackburn.



Making snow is not a cheap undertaking. Ski areas spend anywhere from \$500,000 to over \$3.5 million per season to make snow. Mother Nature is fickle. Some years she treats us to massive snow fall events. These can start in early November and last through April or longer. At other times she is stingy and provides very little snow fall.



Rich Bailey, on the right, started his career at China Peak nearly 50 years ago. He was recently named 'Safety Champion' for 2021 by the National Ski Areas Association, it's highest honor.

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*With unparalleled beauty and flexibility, a wedding at China Peak Mountain Resort is nothing short of magical. This is a perfect venue for your friends and family to share your special moments.*

## China Peak Weddings Offer Lake and Mountain Ceremony Sites

Why not have your own private resort for your special day. China Peak is much more than a special event venue - it's an entire wedding experience.

With unparalleled beauty and flexibility, a wedding at China Peak Mountain Resort is nothing short of magical.

Sixty miles north-east of Fresno, this 1500-acre ski resort can be transformed for a winter or summer wedding or for those looking for a unique experience.

### With Powder Alliance, Adventures Await You

Winter explorers unite! The greatest powder stashes in the West have joined forces to create the Powder Alliance. Now 19 resorts offer FREE SKIING benefits to top-tier pass holders from other participating Powder Alliance areas. All 2021/2/22 season passholders have the option of upgrading to a China Peak Black Pass with benefits that include a membership in the Powder Alliance.

2021/2022 Resort members of the Powder Alliance include Angel Fire (NM), Bogus Basin (ID), Bridger Bowl (MT), Castle Mt in AB Canada, China Peak (CA), Kiroro in Japan, La Parva in Chile, Loveland Ski Area (CO), Marmot Basin in AB Canada, Mission Ridge (WA), Monarch Mountain (CO), Mountain High (CA), Mt. Hood Skibowl (OR), Sierra-At-Tahoe (CA), Schweitzer (ID), Sugar Bowl (CA), Timberline (OR), Whitewater in British Columbia, White Pass (WA). Members of the Powder Alliance can visit each resort 3 times at a special rate, non-holiday. Tickets are FREE MIDWEEK (non-holiday), and 1/2 price on weekends (non-holiday) during the 2021/22 season at these resorts. Holiday blackout dates are listed at PowderAlliance.com, however, It is always best to check with the resort you are visiting before your trip.

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*Happy couple share a kiss with friends and family after their wedding ceremony at China Peak.*

er for a sophisticated cocktail buffet, an intimate brunch, or a grand reception banquet, discover their tempting menus, where every element is customizable to your tastes.

Planning a wedding is truly an art, which is the very reason why couples rely on the knowledge, preparedness and creativity of wedding professionals who have been down this road "a time or two" to guide you on this journey. You can begin exploring your wedding day options by visiting ChinaPeakWeddings.com or contacting Wedding Coordinator, Tess, by email at weddings@skichinapeak.com or by calling her at either (559) 673-5684 or (559) 960-5014.

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## Tim Cohee's Teaching Career Spans 17 Years at Sierra Nevada University

Professor Cohee?

That's correct. China Peak's Managing Partner and General Manager since 2010 also has another title: Professor.

"In 2004, while serving as President of Kirkwood near Lake Tahoe, I was asked by leadership at a small private four year college in Incline Village if I would teach a course in Resort Master Planning, as the only ski business professor had suddenly left with 25 students needing to earn their business degree," Cohee said, explaining how he got involved in university teaching. "I agreed to teach one night a week, and somehow that class turned into a 17 year career."

Since 2005 Cohee has served as Program Chair for the Ski Business & Resort Management Program at Sierra Nevada University, located in the small community of Incline Village, on the east shore of Lake Tahoe. He has seen nearly 1,000 students graduate from his program over the past 16 years, many of whom are managers at ski resorts from California to Maine.

He teaches six courses, three each semester, including Introduction to Ski Business, Profit Center Management, Marketing, General Management, Current Topics & Case Studies, and the Capstone course, Resort Master Planning.

"It's been a lot of fun teaching college students who are not only passionate about skiing and riding, but are spending over \$100,000 to study our industry and hopeful-

ly start off with entry level management positions at any one of dozens of resorts across the country. When competing for the best jobs my students are always the most capable of any college graduate in the country, as they've spent hundreds of hours studying, working for Tahoe resorts and completing ski industry internships. No typical college student with a degree in business can compete with what they learn in our program."

In 2020 Cohee added courses outside the ski business curriculum to his agenda, including Business Communication, Entrepreneurship, Marketing and the business Capstone Course, Strategic Management.

Two of Cohee's sons, Chase (34) and Troy (28), graduated from SNU with business degrees, concentration in ski business.

Chase is a freestyle coach at Sugar Bowl Resort just outside Lake Tahoe, while Troy is China Peak's manager of snowmaking, grooming, terrain parks and the mountain bike park. Both Chase and Troy won the Annual Master Plan Competition at SNU.

In addition to his faculty position, Cohee has provided strategic consulting to the SNU Board of Trustees for the past decade (pro bono).

"Sierra Nevada University was recently purchased by the University of Nevada, Reno, so we'll see what level of change that brings in 2022. Regardless of how it goes I've enjoyed interacting with energetic young people who want to become the next generation of ski industry leaders."

## Central California Adaptive Sports Center Helps Those With Disabilities to Enjoy Winter Sports

The Central California Adaptive Sports Center (CCASC), helps provide access to winter sports to many who have suffered mental or physical injuries.

The Adaptive Sports Center strives to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities through exceptional outdoor adventure activities.

CCASC's offers lessons for persons with disabilities of all skill levels and interests, in-

cluding sit-skiing, stand-up skiing, ski-biking, snowshoeing and mountaineering.

Winter programs are available to all persons with disabilities Thursday through Sunday, Thanksgiving week-end through April and depending upon Mother Nature.

CCASC is able to offer lessons to Veterans with disabilities at no charge. Discounted lift tickets and rentals are available for family members.

Some discounts and scholarships are available to non-veterans. Please visit the Adaptive Sports Center office for more information.

Most of CCASC's winter activities are planned to last for a half-day or all day. Half-day programs run from 9:30 am - 12:00 noon or 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Full day programs run from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm. All programs take place at China Peak Mountain Resort unless otherwise designated.

CCASC's programs invite the participation of family and friends, as well as empower our participants in their daily lives.

For more information or to schedule a program, please contact us at: [randy@centralcaladaptive.org](mailto:randy@centralcaladaptive.org) or call 559-593-2504.



Folks with disabilities can try a variety of ways to slide down the mountain at China Peak.

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# Ross Blackburn: From Junior

In 2010, Tim Cohee, current China Peak Managing Partner and General Manager, purchased Sierra Summit with a former colleague at Kirkwood Ski Resort and brought back the resort's original name.

Two years later, Ross Blackburn, along with his friend and colleague Chris Hecker, became a partner in the resort.

In 2013, Ross bought out Cohee's original partner and became the majority owner of China Peak.

Roll the tape forward a decade, and in spite of numerous droughts, a major fire and a pandemic China Peak is thriving, coming off a record season, the installation of one of the larger snowmaking systems in California and the purchase and upgrading of the Rancheria marina, now called China Peak Landing, with the new Boat House food and bar service opening spring 2022, and lakefront concerts set for summer. Today, Ross, Chris and Tim remain the owners and operators of China Peak.

For the first time since he purchased his ownership in China Peak, Ross, who has enjoyed tremendous success in the almond business, shares thoughts on his history with China Peak, his purchase, the challenges of owning a ski resort, and the future.

Frank Anderes is a life long friend of Ross', having spent nearly all his youth from age five to 21 on the China Peak Ski Team. Although Ross is six years younger than Frank, the ski team was a close knit group, as they trained, raced and traveled the resorts of the world together.

Ross and Frank remain close friends 50 years later. In October, Frank discussed Ross' history with China Peak.



Pictured above are Julie and Ross Blackburn. Ross bought into China Peak Ski Resort in 2012. He is partnered with Tim Cohee and Chris Hecker in owning and operating this popular family resort.

**Frank:** You have been very successful in the almond industry. What was your motivation to get into the ski resort business?

**Ross:** It was something of a bucket list exercise. When I was on the ski team in my youth my parents were friends of the owners, Joe and Joanne Weirick.

There was something about Joe Weirick that struck me. He was just this super cool guy. I always thought, how cool would it be to own a ski area and just stroll around the base area, the bars, the lifts and interact with your friends and customers.

Ten years ago, in 2012, Tim Cohee reached out to me and the rest is history. As it turns out I'm not nearly as socially skilled as Joe Weirick.

I would also add when I was 12 years old I was of course naive about the possible headaches that come with owning a ski resort - too little snow, too much snow, labor shortages, climate change, etc. I guess the irony is when I bought in 10 years ago at age 49 I was probably still just as naive.

China Peak Mountain Resort is an insignificant part of my investment portfolio, yet it provides a ton of anxiety. My father is a farmer and I have lived that life - water issues, frost, you know the deal. They pale in comparison to being in the ski business.

**Frank:** You've been skiing at China Peak/Sierra Summit for over 50 years. What are the biggest changes in that time?



From left to right are the partners behind China Peak Mountain Resort: Tim Cohee, Ross Blackburn and Chris Hecker. Together they strive to create a fantastic skiing experience for their guests.

**Ross:** When I started skiing at China Peak there was only one grooming machine. Now we have nine. Plus the groomers in the 1960s didn't have fancy tiller bars and other ways to provide a nice groomed surface. Plus they were far slower, which meant maybe 1-2 runs were groomed a night.

Our grooming crew today can cover nearly every major run in a night if they have the right snow conditions. If you skied in the 1960s you had better be prepared for moguls. Today, moguls are almost non-existent.

The chair lift system and names of runs have changed so much in 60 years. What we called Chair 1 is now Chair 6. In the 60s the current Chair 6 took you to the top of the mountain, and today it goes half way.

There were only two chairs and a T-bar when I started skiing at China Peak - now we have six chairs, a T-bar and four moving carpets. I can't articulate the changes in run names or all the reasons for the changes.

If you asked me to meet you someplace on the mountain today it had better be at Buckhorn, the only landmark I know for sure.

There are a lot of other changes over the past 50 years but one that comes to mind is the parking lots. In the 1960s the back parking lots didn't exist, so everybody left Fresno early to get a good spot.

We literally parked on Highway 168 half the time, which no one does today. I have dreadful memories of getting up in the dark, knowing my non-skiing friends were sleeping until noon, then

sitting in the back seat of my father's car, vulnerable to motion sickness on those curvy mountain roads.

**Frank:** What are some of your fondest memories of China Peak over the past several decades?

**Ross:** A special ski weekend occurred when I was in high school. I was staying at the Huntington Lake condos, a few miles from the resort, with a large group of friends. It snowed so much Cal Trans closed Highway 168. The only skiers at China Peak were hotel guests and a few dozen cabin and condo owners.

Apparently there were enough staff living on site Joe Weirick opened the resort for the 50-60 of us that were able to find a parking spot. We did lap after lap on The Face for two days.

In the 1960s and 70s there were regularly one hour lift lines. I remember less about how long the lines were then I do enjoying the scene - socializing, sunshine, catching rays and admiring all those gorgeous ladies in those stretch ski pants. How did stretch pants go out of style?

**Frank:** China Peak has been around now for over 60 years. What is your vision for the resort in the next 10-20 years?

**Ross:** Replacing Chair 6 is at the top of our long list of capital improvements. We know that our hotel and lodging is overdue for upgrades and expansion. The list is endless. It all takes money. Traditional lenders look at us like we have a communicable disease. The improvements we've made over the past 10 years

(continued on page 17)

# Ski Racer to Resort Owner

(continued from page 16)

- Chair 2 upgrade, snow cats, snow-making, Buckhorn and the Inn remodel, etc. - have all come out of cash flow.

Like most resorts in the country we operate our 1,400 acres on a U.S. Forest Service Special Use Permit. Lenders want us to be on fee simple land for better security, so they shy away.

We initiated discussions with the Forest Service a few years ago to do a land swap in our base area and allow us to develop real estate, which would be a big hit for many of our customers, but they haven't shown much interest.

My son Blake and two of Tim's sons - Troy and Tristan - are on our staff. I think and hope they are the next generation of China Peak operators.

**Frank:** Talk a bit about the history and future of the China Peak Ski Team, as well as your accomplishments as a ski racer.

**Ross:** My personal accomplishments in racing are hardly worth mentioning. To be a top competitor you need a solid set of stones and a good amount of athletic gifts.

I am just an average athlete with marginal stones. That said, my ski racing experience was awesome. Some of my best friends today, including you, I made while I was ski racing.

That world takes you to some exotic and high end ski destinations. I

once spent six weeks in France training exclusively downhill and will brag to anyone who will listen I trained at Val D'Isere, one of the world's most renowned downhill tracks.

Most impressive about the China Peak Ski Team in those days was the caliber of racers we had, frankly almost hard to conceive looking back.

I had two coaches, Konrad Rickenbach and John McMurty, that went on to become head coaches at the U.S. Ski Team. Another third coach, Chris Jones, also coached at that level.

China Peak turned out a handful of great ski racers, including three World Cup skiers - Janet Turner, Kristi Terzian and Adele Allender. Can you imagine? There were high powered ski teams at Mammoth and Squaw Valley, and here was China Peak in the same league - amazing.

It's nearly impossible to duplicate what happened with the China Peak Ski Team back in the 1960s and 70s. It was the perfect storm, with support from the Weirick's, great coaches, great athletes and the money to travel and compete at the highest level.

Today the team is much smaller and it's more of a development program to encourage youngsters to become good skiers for a lifetime. Very few move on to the next level, but this season one of China Peak's better skiers from a



Ross Blackburn is on a quad chair with his family on a summer outing to China Peak Mountain Resort. From left to right are sons, Blake and Beaux, with furry friend Justin, Ross and his wife Julie.

few years ago has come back to coach, which will be a positive thing.

**Frank:** Recently China Peak has expanded into summer activities. What is the master plan for that?

**Ross:** When we bought China Peak they were not even open in the summer. Now we do a decent chunk of our revenue from May to October.

Mountain biking has taken off, our dinners and live music at the Inn are sold out every Friday night, we're booked solid for weddings and concerts all summer and the marina we bought two years ago, now China Peak Landing, has been a winner.

**Frank:** Talk a bit about your family and their involvement in China Peak.

**Ross:** My youngest son Beaux didn't catch the ski bug. My wife Julie has a pretty solid ski wardrobe, and she likes hanging out at Buckhorn with our friends, same as me, for it's awesome ambiance. She has a hard time understanding how we spent \$6,000,000 on capital improvements and can't have better bathrooms.

Blake is 22 and will finish up at UC Santa Barbara in 2022. He is very excited about being involved and works closely with Tim's son Troy. He has driven grooming machines, made snow, built terrain park features, installed snowmaking pipe and plenty of challenging summer maintenance.

**Frank:** Final thoughts?

**Ross:** It's been a lot tougher than I imagined, and there were for sure times this past decade with so many severe droughts I wanted to walk away. But I hung in there and somehow after all that's worked against us we've come out in pretty good shape.

It will never be easy, with climate change, so many capital projects still to do, labor challenges, governmental interference, etc.

I think the next 10 years will be better than the last 10, and if our sons - Blake, Troy and Tristan - develop into good managers and leaders, it will be fun to watch.



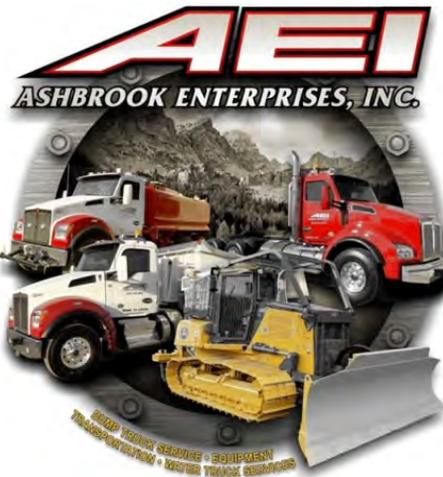
The Blackburn family is enjoying a day on the slopes at China Peak Mountain Resort. Mom, Julie is at the left with sons Beaux and Blake in the middle and dad, Ross finishing out the lineup.

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# If You Don't Ski, Just Drop the Others Off and Go Snowshoeing

Okay, you and your friends like the winter time and enjoy the snow. But they like skiing and boarding and you're not interested in that. So drop them off at China Peak and go snowshoeing.

What started as a necessary means of travel thousands of years ago has evolved into a popular alternative winter activity for recreation and fitness.

It's also inexpensive. You only need snowshoes, hiking boots, warm clothing, gloves, head gear and perhaps poles. That's it!

Snowshoeing offers participants a low-impact, aerobic exercise that



*Snowshoeing is gaining in popularity across the country. You can rent them at Shaver Lake Sports.*

helps you stay in shape during the winter. It's versatile. Trail etiquette is important. You will often be sharing the trail with cross-country skiers. Try to stay out of the tracks the skiers have worked so hard to set. Skiers

have the right-of-way on trail systems.

Always pay attention to your physical condition, the environment and your gear. Stick to established trails at first. The local SnoPark areas have cross-country ski trails that snowshoers can share. Do not snowshoe alone.

Be aware of hazards like creek crossings, weather changes along with tree or rock wells. Leave trip plans with a friend. Let them know whom to contact in case you don't return on time.

Know the signs of hypothermia so you can recognize them in members of your party. REI at Riverpark and Shaver Lake Sports will rent and sell snowshoes. They will fit you with a pair that is appropriate for you. You don't need special shoes for snowshoeing, just waterproof hiking boots.

It's easy to learn to use snowshoes. Within five minutes you'll be having a good time. If you are used to walking five miles on a summer hike, you're probably going to go about two and a half miles in that same amount of time on snowshoes..

For snowshoes, it's imperative that you have the right size and maybe even have extensions for them so you don't sink into the snow. Extensions are tails that you clip onto the end of snowshoes to increase the surface area meaning you won't sink.

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**SHAVER LAKE VILLAGE HOTEL**

Map labels include: SHAYER LAKE, China Peak, Museum, HIGHWAY 168, WARBLER AVE, DIGGER LN., PARKING, HOTEL, Photo OP, WANTED, ONLY YOU CAN SAVE THE TREES, FRESNO.

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| 5. Honey Moose Cabin       | 13. Forest Theater             |
| 6. Log Cabin (ADA)         | 14. Ceremony Area              |
| 7. Bunkhouses 1 & 2        | 15. Dance Floor                |
| 8. Bell Tent               | 16. Reception & Special Events |

Photo OP

**Come Play and Stay - (559) 841-8289 - ShaverLakeVillageHotel.com**



Concerts and other special events are activities that can be held at the China Peak Landing property on Huntington Lake. Here a large crowd gathers for an afternoon concert along the lakeshore.

## Food & Bar Service, Concert Series Set For China Peak Landing Summer 2022

(continued from page 1)

all the dead or dying trees and suddenly we had over 400 feet of mostly sandy beaches with plenty of parking for day use and easy lake access, the most convenient spot on Huntington Lake. It didn't take a ton of imagination to see what else we could use this beautiful lakefront site for, and by 2020 China Peak Landing became a very desirable location for weddings and other summer events," said Cohee.

In August of 2021 China Peak hosted its first summer concert at 'Huntington Beach', which attracted 1,000 visitors enjoying the water, music, auto show, vendors, lots of good food and beverages from the region's top breweries.

"The concert was such a hit we will roll out a full 2022 Concert Series, 'The Splash', starting the 4th of July weekend," said Tess Erdman, who has been China Peak's wedding coordinator for eight years and now handles the concert series. "We'll have four concerts with a variety of top performances from country to rock, starting off on the 4th of July, two mid summer and finish on Labor Day weekend."

But the new wedding and concert venue wasn't all China Peak saw as having potential at the new marina.

"The deck was old and the existing boat

house was just used for storage. We saw the potential for food and beverage at the marina, right on the water, and will open our new facility, 'The Boat House', with a brand new deck, food trailer and bar in May of 2022," said Tristan Cohee, the resort's Food & Bar Manager. "There's nothing like it at any lake in the area, offering



China Peak Landing has pontoon and fishing boats as well as kayak and canoes available for rent.

the vibe of eating and drinking right at the lake's shore."

China Peak's summer business is so brisk between the Summer Concert Series, weddings and it's very popular 'Friday Night Live' music on the patio of the Inn @ China Peak they are already booked from May to October in 2022. They expect to open The Boat House on Memorial Day weekend 2022.



There are four summer concerts set for the Summer 2022 season starting with the Fourth of July, two more during the middle of summer and the last one set for the Labor Day Weekend on the lake.

## Blake Blackburn - Taking The Hard Path to Learning the Ropes at CP

Often times we see children of highly successful, hard working parents choose an easier path. That is not the case for Blake Blackburn, 22, the eldest of Ross and Julie Blackburn's two sons, the majority owners of China Peak and one of the leading almond packaging companies in the world.

"It's hard work being on the mountain team that handles snowmaking, grooming, terrain parks and the mountain bike park," said Blake from his apartment in Santa Barbara, where he is finishing up his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology mid 2022 at UCSB. "I suppose I could have started in easier departments when I began working at China Peak, but I really enjoy the challenge and teamwork it takes to be successful."

A graduate of San Joaquin Memorial High School in Fresno, Blake was first on skis at two years old, on the end of a long harness being controlled by his father, Ross. He spent a few years on the China Peak Ski Team as a youngster, then began working at China Peak during one of his first winter breaks from college.

He had a short stint in the rental department, but when he returned for summer work he gravitated to the mountain, where he

### Buy Online and Save

Save up to 20% off the ticket window rate by purchasing your tickets online at [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com)! All day lift tickets are valid from 9 am - 4 pm. Half day lift tickets are available from 12:30 pm - 4 pm.

All online tickets expire at the close of the 2019/2020 winter season or April 30, 2020 whichever comes first. No credits or rollovers will be granted for use during the following season. Make sure to use them up!

Beginner area lift tickets for moving carpets are only available for purchase at the resort.

## Quad Lift Transports Skiers and Boarders Quickly and Efficiently to Popular Terrain

China Peak is California's only Central Sierra resort on the west slope offering terrain, acreage and elevations comparable to Tahoe ski resorts.

Larger resorts certainly may have more amenities, but families with kids are more interested in the overall cost, as long as the resort offers a quality experience.

The Buckhorn Quad has really been a game changer for the thousands of China Peak skiers and riders who enjoy the popular upper mountain terrain.

"This is a spectacular lift, big, wide, state of the art, comfortable and quickly moves guests up the slope," said Managing Partner Tim Cohee. "Skiers and riders notice a significant difference, with much better access to the top terrain.

An advantage of the quad lift is the load-

helped install the new snowmaking system as well as other mountain maintenance tasks.

"When COVID hit I was able to spend the entire winter at China Peak, working with snowmaking, grooming and the terrain park. Snowmaking is the toughest job on the mountain, working all night in the cold and wet, pretty risky stuff. But in low



Pictured above at China Peak are the Blackburn brothers Beau, left, and Blake on the right.

snow winters we are the key to the resort opening lifts and runs, so there's a huge reward when you know the snow you produced is why thousands of people are enjoying the mountain," said Blake. "Driving snow cats and grooming is an awesome experience, laying down a good surface, controlling machines worth upwards of \$300,000. And now that we have a much bigger snowmaking system we will be able to have a bigger and better terrain park."

Blake can see his future at China Peak developing into a real career.

"I love working outside and with a team. I've learned a lot, and my goal over the next few years is to continue to gain experience, ultimately running teams and departments. I'd like to think we are the next generation to run China Peak, continuing to make improvements and offer the valley one of its most valuable assets," said Blake.

ing area, which offers a lot of room around Buckhorn and Chair 5. The bottom terminal is further up the mountain it and is a very popular gathering area. The quad lift draws a crowd.

"I think personally it's the most popular chair here," Cohee concluded.

### China Peak Seasonal Lockers Still Available

Skier and boards will be happy to note that seasonal lockers are available for them at China Peak Ski Resort.

This is in response to requests made in the past to have additional lockers in place for those that needed them.

To make arrangements to reserve your locker, please contact Lyndsie at [events@SkiChinaPeak.com](mailto:events@SkiChinaPeak.com).

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



China Peak is again partnering with the Sequoia Brewing to run a charter bus starting the week of January 3 and run thru early April, conditions permitting. Visit [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com) for full details.

## Plan an Educational Winter Field Trip for Students and Teachers

China Peak is your destination for Winter Outdoor Education, offering a school field trip opportunity that students and teachers will be talking about for years to come!

The U.S. Forest Service and China Peak joined together to present an interactive outdoor experience including a day of skiing or snowboarding at group rates Thursday and Friday.

Price includes: a video presentation by the U.S. Forest Service introduces the concept of public lands; snow science and mountain safety; an all mountain lift ticket; rental equipment, skis or snowboard, boots; bindings and poles; an any level group lesson with our staff of professional ski and snowboard teachers

China Peak offers lunch services and discounts for parents and siblings as well.

Each visit can feature a different science lesson. Some optional pre-visit lesson packets available for teachers to review.

Groups must have a minimum of 15 students (ages 5-18) and 2 chaperones. Rates are based on the group size, day of the week and frequency of visits.

Contact Group Sales to book your date at (559) 233-2500, 5010 or email [Groups@skichinapeak.com](mailto:Groups@skichinapeak.com). Ask about special discounts available to groups visiting four or more times per season. To get more about weekend and holiday group rates visit [SkiChinaPeak.com/field-trips](http://SkiChinaPeak.com/field-trips).

# Your private ski cabin.




**Cabins at The Lake, from \$345/night. Up to 4 bedrooms, up to 10 guests.**

The **Lakefront Chalet**, overlooking Huntington Lake and the Ski Resort, is the perfect destination for your family or ski group, offering 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, and sleeps up to 10. At the **Vista Cabin**,

you'll feel secluded in the woods! It's 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and sleeps 6 comfortably. Both cabins feature wood stoves, fully equipped kitchens and updated appliances. Call for details or to book your stay.

**(559) 233-1200**

No pets. 4WD traction may be required during winter months. Rates and programs subject to change.



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The Sierra Crest Properties staff would like to thank clients, buyers and sellers alike, for making our new venture such a tremendous success!

Our agents are all independent experienced local real estate professionals who have come together to form a true team. Combined we offer over 112 years of real estate experience. We are of like mind in our dedication to provide superior service with the utmost level of integrity while enjoying the process. We love what we do and it shows! Our clients' needs and best interests are at the heart of everything we do. We set a high bar and move mountains to exceed expectations.

Please allow the Sierra Crest Properties team the opportunity to help you with all your real estate needs. Working together we can help market and sell your home and/or assist you in finding that perfect property to buy. Just Contact a Team Member to start the process.

When you're in Shaver Lake, stop by the office and say "Hi"!

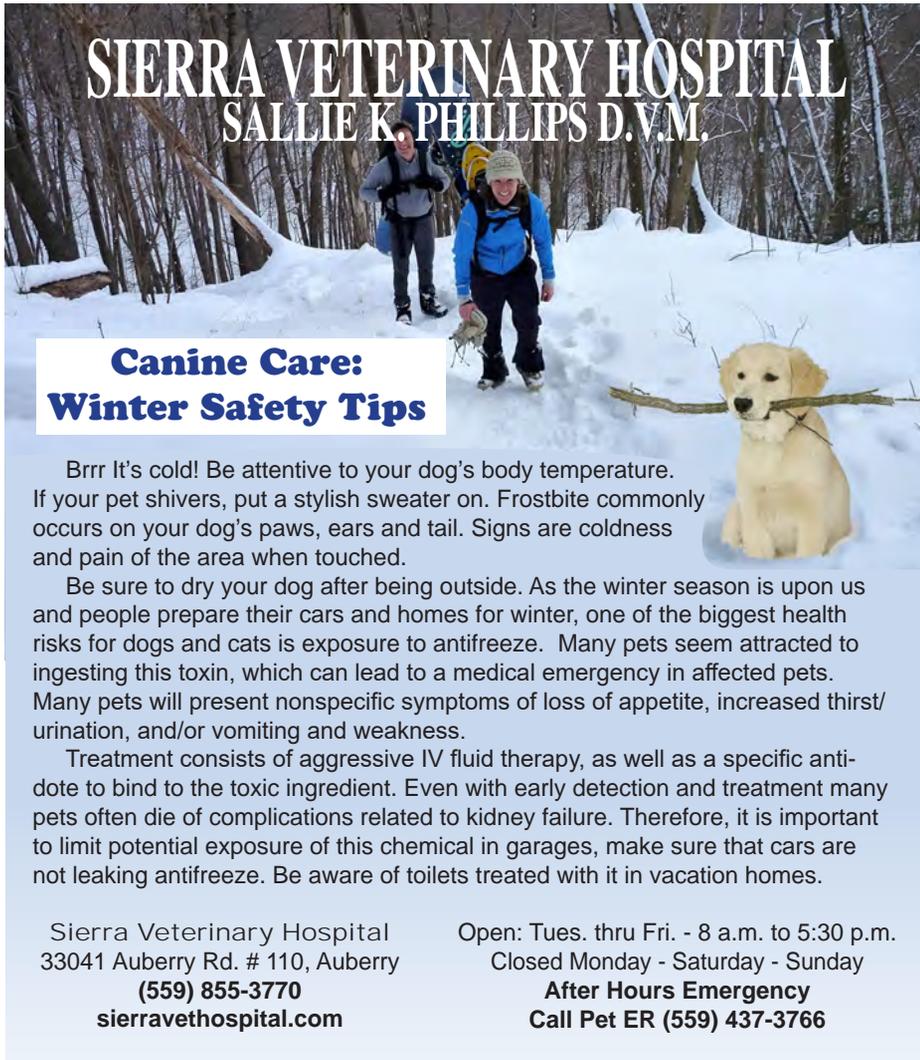
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#### Meet the Team

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**Canine Care:  
Winter Safety Tips**

Brrr It's cold! Be attentive to your dog's body temperature. If your pet shivers, put a stylish sweater on. Frostbite commonly occurs on your dog's paws, ears and tail. Signs are coldness and pain of the area when touched.

Be sure to dry your dog after being outside. As the winter season is upon us and people prepare their cars and homes for winter, one of the biggest health risks for dogs and cats is exposure to antifreeze. Many pets seem attracted to ingesting this toxin, which can lead to a medical emergency in affected pets. Many pets will present nonspecific symptoms of loss of appetite, increased thirst/urination, and/or vomiting and weakness.

Treatment consists of aggressive IV fluid therapy, as well as a specific antidote to bind to the toxic ingredient. Even with early detection and treatment many pets often die of complications related to kidney failure. Therefore, it is important to limit potential exposure of this chemical in garages, make sure that cars are not leaking antifreeze. Be aware of toilets treated with it in vacation homes.

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# Earn the Burn With Countless Runs at China Peak With Short Lift Lines and Great Terrain

*(continued from page 1)*

While the mountain is well known to Central Valley riders, Bay area and Central Coast skiers and riders should note that it is just a four hour drive from the coast between Palo Alto and Pismo Beach.

“My family has been China Peak pass



holders since I was a baby” said Marissa Neely, a 24 year old Santa Cruz native. “Thanks to China Peak being such a short drive from Santa Cruz, I learned how to ski and then later snowboard which ultimately led to me becoming a team rider for Santa Cruz Snowboards, then earning a scholarship for college in Tahoe. No matter where I was riding in Tahoe, I always returned home to China Peak where the crowds were non-existent and the riding was great. Where else can you ride untouched powder at 2:00 p.m. on a bluebird Saturday? It is safe to say that I am a season pass holder for life, and look forward to raising my future kids on this mountain. Hopefully they like snow as much as I do!”

Let’s talk about the mountain. With a



base at 7,000 feet and a top of 8,700 feet. It offers a drop of nearly 1,700 vertical feet. A quad chair, three double chairs and four triple chairs get skiers and boarders around the mountain. Chair 4 leads to the Tollhouse terrain park. This is the a very popular location. Here riders can go big without worrying about people dropping in on them.

China Peak’s skiable acres rivals resorts



like Alpine, Northstar, Sierra and Sugar Bowl, all in the region around Tahoe.

You can give your kids some mileage for a warm up on a top-to-bottom Green run, down the 2.25 mile long Academy run. Off Academy there are multiple options for Blue runs, Black runs and some exciting tree skiing.

“While the larger resorts certainly have more amenities”, stated Tim Cohee, Managing Partner, “the fact is families with kids are more interested in the overall cost, as long as the resort offers a quality experience, which we certainly do.”

Perhaps the biggest challenge is finding the energy to keep going all day. To fuel that energy, China Peak has 10 food outlets at the resort that cater to every hungry appetite, from pizza to fine dining. Drinks are available at Sully’s, Jack’s, Buckhorn, Mainstream Station, the new Base Camp and JW’s.

After a day on the slopes you can stay nearby to get a jump on the day when the lifts open at 9 a.m. The Inn at China Peak offers several lodging opportunities, including condos.

Take advantage of the offers that The Inn at China Peak has on midweek packages including rooms and lift tickets, which you can see at [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com). Kids 5 and under ski for free.

In addition, China Peak is one of the only mountain resorts in the nation to allow on-site RV parking. Make your reservation now!

Active duty military personnel receive



special offers. All day lift tickets are available at half off the regular price and are valid any day, holidays included.

China Peak has a treat for you. On your birthday you are invited to ski or ride for

half price. Just show the ticket office a photo to ID with date of birth. This offer is not valid on holidays.

The management and staff are always available to assist you. Further resort details at [SkiChinaPeak.com](http://SkiChinaPeak.com) or (559) 233-2500.

Twenty miles to the south, the community of Shaver Lake offers many lodging opportunities. And don’t forget about staying right here at The Inn at China Peak.

The Inn at China Peak is comfortable



and cozy. Many rooms have their own bathrooms. However, dorm style rooms with a shared bathroom and shower facilities are available for the frugal. Suites options exist.

Now that you know the answer to “Why ski China Peak?” you have no excuse for not planning a trip in the near future.



*Former Director of Skiing Nick Cohee enjoying the scene at the Buckhorn Bar with wife Meagan.*

## Buckhorn Bar & Grill One of Skiing’s Best Hot Spots

*(continued from page 1)*

no bar, marginal food service, no deck, no seating beyond picnic tables and no vibe. Now, it has five times the number of customers and is where a good portion of China Peak’s customers hang out all winter. On weekends the deck is alive with action, including local favorite Terry Mullins playing his guitar and singing favorite songs from all eras.

“I was born into the ski business and have skied almost every resort in California, and I don’t know where you can find the scene we’ve created here at Buckhorn, even at the largest and most popular resorts,” said Tristan.

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The Chalet is perfect for families and parties for up to 10, featuring two bedrooms, with California Kings, upstairs loft with two full size beds, a twin bed, 2 1/2 baths, full kitchen, Directv and wifi.

## China Peak Has Two Cabins Available Just Two Miles Away at Huntington Lake

If you have a big family or a large gathering of friends, China Peak Mountain Resort offers two spacious cabins near China Peak Landing at Huntington Lake, just two miles from the slopes.

The Chalet is perfect for families and parties for up to 10 people! There are two bedrooms downstairs, each with California King Beds, a huge loft upstairs that has two full size beds, a twin bed, and a 1/2 bath and two full size bath-

rooms downstairs. It features a full kitchen, Directv, wifi, washer, dryer and more!

The Huntington Vista house can sleep up to eight, with three bedrooms and two baths. One room is a cool loft and has a full size bed. The other two rooms have queen size beds. This house has a full kitchen, Directv, a smart tv, wifi, washer and dryer.

Book online at [res.shsdemo.com/Chinapeak/](http://res.shsdemo.com/Chinapeak/) New or through China Peak at (559) 233-1200.

## Well Trained Crew 655 Works to Keep Travelers Moving on Hwy 168

A new day, a new shift. The crew grabs supplies for the day: a thermos of hot coffee, breakfast burritos, jerky for a quick snack later, dry gloves and any essentials that might make the shift more comfortable.

This is no 8-5 shift, in fact this is no eight-hour shift; the days are long and cold, and the nights are even colder. Weekends don't exist and neither do holidays. Mother Nature dictates when this crew gets to take a well-deserved break and some years she is more generous than others.

Crew 655 also known as the Shaver Lake Crew maintains over 120 lane miles on State Route 168 between Sample Road and Kaiser Pass Road and can easily tell you where each large boulder, sharp turn and roadway oddity is. For many on this crew, this familiar stretch of road is home.

The surrounding communities of Auberry, Prather and Shaver Lake rely on this crew. Without them, wintertime tourism would be difficult, routes to school would be inoperable and those who travel to the Valley for appointments, work and errands would be unable to complete their to-do list.

Crew 655 consists of at least 12 crew members (re-enforcements are brought in from other areas if needed) that split the 12 to 15-hour shifts.

During these shifts, crew members can be found manning six plow trucks, two blowers, and two graders; often the seat of some equipment never has a chance to get cold, as soon as one person exits the vehicle another enters, and work continues.

As the sun rises and crowds descend upon the area, the crew spends a portion of the day partnering with CHP to enforce chain control at varying locations including. Those not working the chain control areas are out using a road grader to peel

the snow pack and ice off the road and the blowers to get the snow off the road to give a safer and wider travel space for motorists.

Days prior, the crew went into Storm Protocol, the process of planning and executing last-minute repairs, culvert cleaning, weather monitoring, pothole filling, and preparations for any environmentally sensitive areas that are susceptible to flash floods or rock slides.

If you happen to head up to the Greater Shaver Lake region for a leisurely weekend, don't forget to show your appreciation to the Shaver Lake Crew.

The best way to acknowledge their hard work is to give them plenty of time and space to do their work and remember #DontCrowdThePlow!



From Nov. 1 to Apr. 1 California requires all vehicles to carry chains (or cables) when they enter a chain control area, even if it isn't snowing at the moment. Don't just buy and carry chains. Practice applying them at least once to be sure you know how. Consequences of not having them can include fines or charges for damages from an accident. If a law enforcement officer stops you and you don't have chains or cables they can have your vehicle towed.

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# Variety of Accommodations Offered for Winter Guests Planning a Trip to the Local Mountains

China Peak Mountain Resort is located in the Sierra National Forest in a region that has been referred to as California's Best Kept Secret. It is the hub of many Fresno County winter activities.

Many visitors stay for more than a day and therefore require a place to stay overnight or longer. Fortunately there are a number of options available.

**The Inn at China Peak** offers slope side lodging that are just a few steps from the Day Lodge and lift lines. Two unique cabins are available at Lakeshore as well. Af-



ter spending a fantastic day on the slopes, guests can enjoy their favorite libation and a delicious dinner at the Inn featuring a wide variety of menu selections. Relax apres ski in JW's Original Bar and enjoy drink specials and tasty appetizers. (559) 233-2500 or SkiChinaPeak.com.



Rancheria Chalet, China Peak Landing, booked at skichinapeak.com.



Huntington Vista, China Peak Landing, booked at skichinapeak.com.



The Inn at China Peak

The following regional facilities are listed for your convenience. Some are pet friendly. Call ahead or check their websites to see if you can bring your furry friends!

Accommodations feature a complete range of amenities travelers desire. There are a number of cozy cabins, elegant condos, bed and breakfast inns as well as full service resorts, comfortable motels, hotels, campsites, AirBnB and VBRO offerings.

**Elliott House B&B** is near the center of the Shaver Lake Village. Each guest room is delightfully decorated, featuring luxurious feather beds and cozy sitting areas. They are specifically designed to ensure comfort and relaxation. Patrons are treated to a wonderful delicious breakfast. (888) 841-8601 or visit ElliottHouseBandB.com.



Elliott House B and B

**Shaver Lake Village Hotel** is near the end of Shaver Lake, situated by Ken's Market. There are an extensive array of accommodations. They include economical hotel rooms, spacious cabins, well appointed suites and a bunkhouse. Enjoy a Continental breakfast each morning. (559) 841-8289 or ShaverLakeVillageHotel.com.



Shaver Lake Village Hotel

**AirBnB and VBRO** both represent a large variety of accommodations in the Auberry, Big Creek, Huntington Lake, Prather and Shaver Lake regions. To make your arrangements, guests need to contact the individual owners of these facilities. This is done through their websites: AirBnB.com or VBRO.com.

**Vacasa Vacation Rentals** feature the largest selection of private homes, cabins and condos in and around the Shaver and Huntington Lakes region. Some very conveniently located just about five minutes from China Peak. They are all warm and comfortable. (855) 861-5757

**Tamarack Motor Lodge** is ideal for those that like to stay near China Peak Mountain Resort. It is very conveniently located just six miles below the turnout that leads into China Peak Ski Resort. It is ideal for the budget conscious family or group. Six suites are available to guests. Each of the units has a kitchenette, private bath and TV with cable. (559) 893-3244 or TheTamarackLodge.com.



Tamarack Lodge - Lakeshore

**Talahi Ranch Retreat** is located just off Auberry Road in the Prather foothills. China Peak is just 40 miles away. The facility sleeps up to seven. Smart 48" flat screen TV, mini refrigerator, microwave, coffee and hot water maker, private bathroom, laundry facilities and private entrance. This is a pet friendly facility. You can BBQ on the deck. Call (559) 298-3133 or make a reservation at AirBnB.com/h/talahi



Talahi Ranch Retreat - Prather

**Daddy Joe's Lodging - Auberry** These rental homes are situated at the base of the Sierra National Forest in the foothills NE of Fresno in Auberry. The following units are available: The Yellow House, The Barn Bungalow, The Flat, The Bear Den, The Cottage, Sweet Bear's Suite and The Cub Suite. The lodging units are just 38 miles from China Peak Mountain Resort. Make reservations at 559-855-2828 or DaddyJonesLodging.com



Daddy Joe's Lodging - Auberry

**Moose Haven - Shaver Lake** Comfortable Granite Ridge Home offers modern amenities and plenty of space, with a wood-burning fireplace in the living room. The kitchen has a gas grill and is fully outfitted for all your cooking needs. Sleeps 16 in 5 bedrooms. AirbnB.com/h/moosehaven



Moose Haven - Shaver Lake

**The Chalet's & Musick Creek Inn** is on Highway 168 as you enter Shaver Lake from the Central Valley. Get a cozy feeling with their most adored rooms. The Musick Creek Inn & Chalet property encompasses ten hotel rooms, three chalets, one cabin, and one honeymoon suite. Amenities include: Breakfast, Widescreen TV, Wifi, Air conditioning, Laundry and Jacuzzi musickcreekinsshaverlake.com (559) 841-5303 or (559) 545-6904



The Chalet's and Musick Creek Inn Shaver Lake

**Camp Edison** is on Highway 168 between the community and the lake. Built in 1963 by SCE, the camp sits in a pine forest on the western shores of Shaver Lake. It's been a favorite vacation spot ever since. Our 252 campsites are available to the public and they include electricity as well as water. A dump station is available. WiFi is also available at an additional cost. We're open year-round. CampEdison.com.



Camp Edison - Shaver Lake



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Airbnb.com/h/moosehaven



This comfortable home in the Granite Ridge Subdivision near Shaver Lake offers  
modern amenities and plenty of space for a large group or multiple families.



There is a wood-burning fireplace and comfortable leather furniture in the living room, a huge  
deck with forest views for outdoor dining, soaking up sunshine, and running around.



Kitchen has a gas grill and is fully outfitted for all your cooking needs. Group the  
kids together in the large bunk room to play games or watch movies.

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58380 Huntington Lake Rd  
# 568420 - \$495,000

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In Closet Laundry - Great View  
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and tennis courts. 2 decks  
Fireplace - All electric  
62731 Sunny Vista Ln #23  
# 565557 - \$339,500

2/2 well maintained 2 story condo  
Tastefully furnished - Fireplace  
Large deck - Built-in bunk beds  
Spa - Pool - Tennis Courts  
62780 Skiview Ln #98  
# 565129 - \$324,900

2/2 two story condo just past  
China Peak Landing - Fireplace  
Breakfast Bar - Laundry - Deck  
All Electric - Spa - Pool  
62772 Skiview Ln #101  
# 568461 - \$292,500



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# High Sierra Ranger District Offers Diverse Cross Country Ski Trails

In the Sierra National Forest, any snow-covered forest road or trail can be used for cross-country skiing. The High Sierra Ranger District, in the Kaiser Wilderness, has several cross-country ski trailheads along Highway 168 that provide access to eight designated and marked ski trails.

Most of the trails are between 7,000 and 7,500 feet in elevation. They range in length and difficulty from a mile and a half beginner trail at Huntington Lake to a six-mile advanced trail at Coyote Nordic Trailhead on Tamarack Ridge.

## Coyote Nordic Trailhead

The Coyote Nordic Trailhead is 11 miles north of Shaver Lake on the west side of 168. Trails here offer the novice and experienced skier a variety of terrain and scenic viewpoints. Snowshoers and hikers are asked to walk to the side of the Nordic ski track.

## Eagle Trail • (Easy) • 5 miles

The trail follows the road to Shaver Lake Vista where there is a panoramic view of the Shaver Lake Basin. On a clear day, skiers may view the Coast Range across the San Joaquin Valley.

## Coyote Loop • (Difficult) • 6 miles

The trail follows road and trail systems around the Tamarack Mountain area, providing views of Red Mountain, Huntington Lake, Kaiser Ridge and Shaver Lake areas. The trail is rated most difficult due to the length and steeper grades.

## Tamarack Ridge Trailhead

The Tamarack Ridge Nordic/Snowmobile Trailhead is 11 miles north of Shaver Lake on the east side of 168. Vault toilets and trail information are available. Trails here offer the novice and experienced skier a variety of terrain and scenic viewpoints. Snowshoers and hikers are asked to walk to the side of the Nordic ski track. This area is open to motorized and non-motorized use during the winter.

## Raccoon Trail • (Difficult) • 4 miles

The trail follows road and trail systems near the South Fork of the Tamarack Creek region. The trail loops within 200 feet of the South Fork of Tamarack Creek and is rated more difficult.

## Rancheria Nordic Trail • (Easy) • 1.5 miles

The trail is located within the Rancheria Campground in the Huntington Lake area on the west side of 168. The trail follows the road system in the campground via several short loops and provides access to Huntington Lake. Skiers should beware of thin ice on the lake.



Group of adventurous cross-country skiers take a rest after trekking to a mountain top from the Coyote Sno Park. The view is of Shaver Lake and then the Central Valley on the horizon in the distance.

# Remember to Keep in Control When You Go Down the Slopes

Keeping in control on the slopes helps make sure you and others on the hill stay safe and are having a great time.

Skiers in front of you have the right of way. If a slowpoke is blocking your line, give them space so you don't hit them.

When it is time to rest. Stop somewhere sensible like on the side of the piste or where you can be visibly seen and don't get run into.

Make sure to know the trail you are taking. Use the free trail maps provided.

Stop and help fellow skiers who have fallen or looks hurt. If you see a downed skier go over and see if they need the ski patrol.

Don't duck ropes or ski into closed areas. There's a reason ski patrol hasn't opened it yet, and it probably has something to do with your own safety.

Skiing and snowboarding off groomed runs in powder is one of the best parts of the sport, but take proper precautions. Watch for tree wells and deep snow, which can trap you and lead to Snow Immersion Suffocation (SIS).

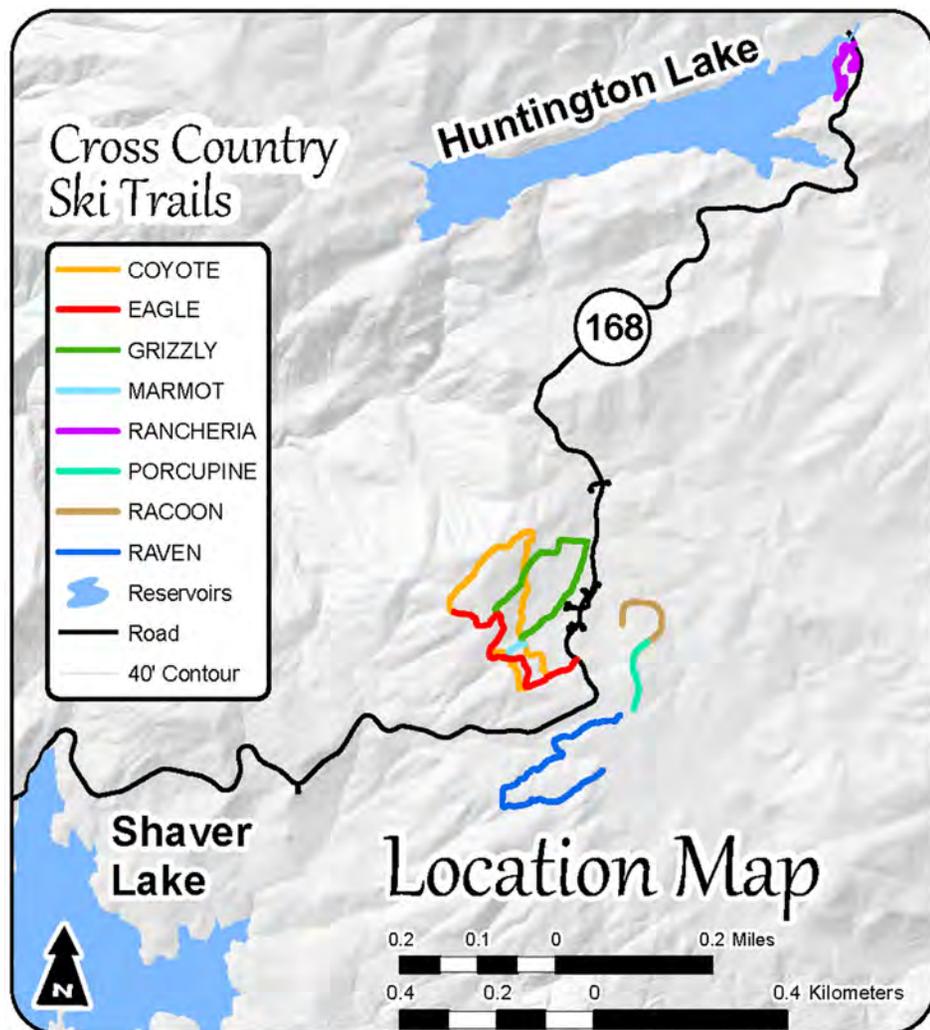
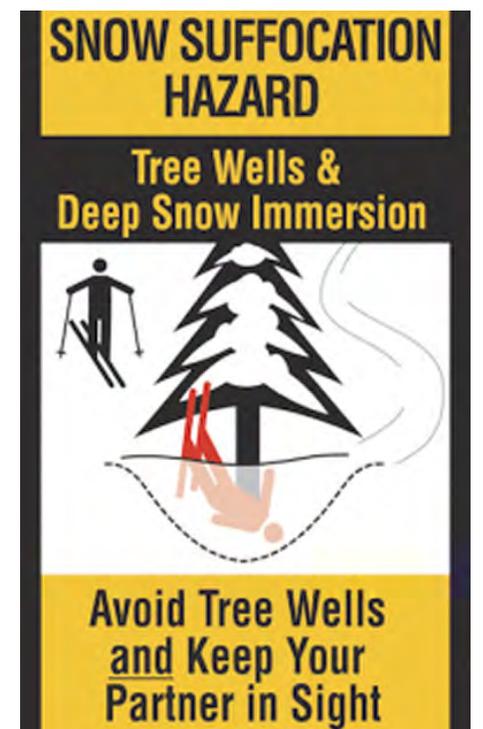
Deep snow can be overwhelming to the point where you cannot pull yourself out. ALWAYS ski and ride with a partner and keep each other in sight at all times.

It is your responsibility to know how to ride a chair lift safely. Need assistance? Ask the lift attendant for help. Smallest kids should load closest to the attendant.

Children under 51" tall are required to ride with an adult, and if in a lesson may not always ride with an instructor. Remove and carry backpacks. It is OK to miss a chair and wait for the next one.

China Peak maintains an open boundary policy. The terrain beyond the ski area boundary is in its natural state and entering the backcountry involves risks including those posed by deep snow, avalanches, steep terrain, cliffs and other terrain variations.

The ski area assumes no responsibility for skiers or snowboarders beyond the ski area boundary. Areas beyond the ski area boundary are not patrolled or maintained. The cost of rescue in the backcountry, if available, will be the responsibility of you



The useful map above outlines the cross-country ski trails that can be explored from the various Sno-Parks in the Shaver and Huntington Lakes region. Use it to enjoy some winter adventures.

# The Faces of China Peak

**1. Graham Jones**, Construction and Facilities Manager. Even though China Peak is a ski resort, most things that go wrong have little to do with the skiing facilities. Far more often it's no heat, no hot water, no water at all, no electricity, a leak, a flood or some other facilities related minor disaster. That's where Graham earns his stripes, as he is the modern version of China Peak's McGyver. Graham has been on the China Peak staff for 11 of the past 13 years, including many years in lifts and lift maintenance. His wife Nicole and their two daughters, Claire and Sierra, can often be seen on the slopes and at the Inn with Graham after a long day helping to keep China Peak running.



**2. Larry Ott**, Lifts and Lift Maintenance Manager. The senior member of the mountain operations team, Larry, 51, spent his first season at Sierra Summit in 1994 at the age of 24. He stayed another season, and met a vibrant young woman, Jennifer Bloom, who was just 18. Larry returned to Sierra Summit in 2007, and has been at the resort ever since, 15 years. No matter how desperate things appear to be on any given day in the lift department, Larry somehow always makes it happen. Like Graham Jones, Larry finds a way to make things work in spite of what appear to be insurmountable odds. He has a very strong sidekick in lifts, Tim Shellenberger, a young star in Eric Montez in lift maintenance and a good crew of younger guys learning the trade. Oh, and that 18 year old he met in 1996? As of October, 2021, she is now Mrs. Larry Ott.



**3. Leslie Weibanga**. If you want someone to get something done, you've found your woman. Leslie started five seasons ago in lifts, moved into snowmaking a year later, then became China Peak's first woman groomer, joined Sully at China Peak Landing in 2019, and now runs the resort's Employee Housing, one of the tougher tasks on the mountain. Leslie is terrific with our staff living in housing and our guests at the Landing, but don't be fooled by her outgoing demeanor - Leslie comes from a hard working farming family and expects everyone to keep up the pace.



**4. Thomas Starr**. Thomas joined China Peak's staff in 2018, so this will be his fourth season. He's recently been promoted to Warehouse Supervisor, and is responsible for making sure all the resort's food and beverage facilities are well stocked every morning, including the Day Lodge, Inn, Boat House, Base Camp, Mainstream and Buckhorn.



**5. Heather Laisle-Arceneau**. This will be season #3 for Heather, as she was recently promoted to Front Desk Supervisor at the Inn @ China Peak. She has become the right hand 'woman' to Inn Manager Russell Morris, and has really become a key person on the resort's management team. She's another of a long list of China Peak women who just knows how to get things done.



**6. Dominik Herrold**. This will be Dominik's 10th season at China Peak. But here's the puzzler - he's 22. So he started working at China Peak when he was 13? Yes he did, pretty amazing. He could be found each weekend cooking at Mainstream, then started working summers at China Peak Landing. He joined the snowmaking team in 2019, and has become a key crew leader. He recently added grooming to his list of skills, and if you need some muscle to get the job done, Dominik is your man - he's 6'3", 240 pounds.



**7. Max Newman**, Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor. If it has an engine, tires or tracks, it's in Max's world. His first season at China Peak was 2015, then returned in 2018 and has been with the resort since, overseeing the maintenance and repair of snow cats, loaders, trucks, snowmobiles and anything else critical to mountain operations. He grew up in a farming family and has driven or repaired just about every type of machine built.



The rental shop has a variety of skis, poles, boots and snowboards for your consideration.

## The Rental Shops and Onsite Repair Services

(continued from page 1)

Save time. Download all forms at [SkiChinaPeak.com/images/RENTAL.pdf](http://SkiChinaPeak.com/images/RENTAL.pdf), and bring the completed form to the ticket window.

### Rental Rates

|                                              | All Day Online | All Day 9 - 4 | Half Day 12:30 - 4 |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Skis, boots and poles or snowboard and boots |                |               |                    |
| Adults 13+                                   | \$57           | \$60          | \$47               |
| Child 6-12                                   | \$40           | \$42          | \$33               |
| Skis and Poles                               | n/a            | \$55          | \$43               |

Consecutive day rentals are 1/2 the day rate for each extra day. Damage waiver is \$5.

CP's full service repair shop, is at the Day Lodge. The professional staff will get you ready and keep you sliding all season.

Take advantage of same day service, or leave your equipment overnight and pick up the next day!

|         | Hand  | Graphic Hand | Jet               |
|---------|-------|--------------|-------------------|
| Waxing  | \$17  | \$22         | \$12              |
| Edging  | \$17  | \$32         | \$57              |
| Repairs | \$12+ | \$42         | \$7+              |
| Mounts  | \$52+ |              | \$12              |
|         |       | Ski Binding  | Snowboard Binding |
|         |       |              |                   |

## Shop at CP for Winter Gear That You May Need

A complete selection of winter outerwear from Burton, Roxy, Volcom, Descente, Spyder, DC, O'Neill, 686 and more are available at China Peak Sports, located on the lower level of the Day lodge near Chair 6.

Shop the complete selection of goggles from Smith, Spy, Anon and Von Zipper and the huge variety of beanies, helmets, gloves, neck warmers and stomp pads.

China Peak logo wear from soft shells and tees to hoodies and everything China Peak at the satellite shop, located in Mainstream Station.

Thinking of getting a helmet this season? Stop by and let the sales staff help fit you properly. All current season passholders enjoy 10% off all purchases of \$100 or more on non-sale items, excluding GoPro items. Black Pass passholders enjoy 15% off the same type of purchase.



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