

FAQ's for Vail Resorts and EPIC Lift Passes

Club Members,

The Ski Club Board of Directors has some news to share about this season's trips. In summary:

- Lift passes will **NOT** be included in the price for trips associated with Vail Resorts (Telluride, Park City, Breckenridge), and **the passes must be purchased separately by the attendee.**
- There are several lift pass options available, which will impact the trip price and the cancellation/refund policy.
- To purchase discounted EPIC day passes and EPIC season passes, a Tour Operator specific website will be provided to the attendees by the Trip Captain **after** the sign-up party.
- Please read the information below, and reach out to the Trip Captain if you have additional questions.

Vail Resorts has instituted a new policy at their (43) member resorts with respect to lift tickets. In the past, all of our domestic trips have included group lift tickets, usually at a substantial discount from the retail price. Over the past few seasons, Vail has rolled out a new product called EPIC day pass and gradually reduced the cost advantage of group lift tickets. For the 2021/22 season, EPIC day passes are a much better value, so we've decided to offer them for purchase on our Telluride, Park City & Breckenridge trips (Winter Park is not impacted). Since these will be new to the club, we wanted to explain how they work prior to the trip sign-up event on August 28th.

The biggest difference for our club members is that the passes must be purchased separately by the individual, from our Tour Operator's web site (to be provided to the trip attendees after the sign-up event). The club will collect for the remaining trip components, including airfare, lodging and ground transportation. One variation: the Park City trip includes one day at Deer Valley, and the club will collect for that.

Here is Vail's [EPIC](#) web site for general information; resort validity, terms/conditions and FAQs. **Do not** use this link to buy your pass. Purchasing a pass prior to the August 28th sign-up event will not secure a spot on a club trip.

The passes have dynamic pricing, and we expect one or two price increases between now and early November, when the sale of these passes will cease. At that time, anyone who has not purchased their lift pass will have to buy the more expensive group lift tickets (thru the club). The club will provide the group lift ticket prices, for comparison purposes. We do not have the specific dates when the prices will increase, but our Tour Operator will give us as much advance warning as possible.

Once the pass has been purchased, it must be used during the 2021/22 season. These passes are non-refundable and non-transferrable. The pass will be a laminated card with your picture on it, similar to the EPIC season pass. If you have to cancel your trip, the club will not be able to recover the cost of the pass.

The good news is that you can use 4 day thru 7 day passes at any of Vail's 43 partner resorts during the season (1-3 day passes have restrictions – see the EPIC web site above). Also, people who purchase passes from the Tour Operator's site will receive a credit on their trip cost equal to 6.5% of the pass's value. Full EPIC pass holders that bought their passes elsewhere will not receive this credit.

Unlike group lift tickets that have a time restriction (i.e. 5 out of 7 days, 3 out of 4 days), the EPIC day passes can be used one day at a time and over multiple trips. If you're planning to go on several club trips (for example, Telluride & Park City) it would be cheaper to buy one 7-day pass than individual 5 and 2 day passes. For those that plan to ski 10 days or more at EPIC resorts, the full season pass may be a better option.

The price shown on the trip flyers for the Telluride, Park City & Breckenridge trips will not include the cost of the EPIC day passes. Park City's price *will* include the day at Deer Valley. The price will also factor in the 6.5% discount for purchasing the EPIC day pass from the Tour Operator's web site for the specific trip (only). The price will be different for attendees that do not purchase lift passes or choose other pass denominations. The Trip Captains will have pricing information for all of the variants, if you have additional questions.