

FRANCIE'S CABIN
Winter Use Reservation Information & Parking Permit
Updated April 2011

Trip Organizer: Please be sure to share the information in this flyer and other reservation information with your group prior to departure!

Before You Depart: Check the web page at www.summithuts.org before you leave for Francie's Cabin in the event of any last minutes changes in parking, access, etc. Click on "Trailhead Information" for the latest. If you have any questions, please contact Summit Huts Association (SHA) prior to departure.

Capacity: Winter occupancy is twenty people. Groups (including those that reserve the entire hut) are asked not to overcrowd the cabin by bringing more guests than their reservation allows. Overcrowding causes maintenance problems and is in violation of the USFS permit.

Hut Amenities: Francie's Cabin sleeps twenty people, divided among six bunk rooms. There are no double sleeping accommodations. The hut is booked to capacity and may be occupied by more than one group. Overflow camping around the huts is not permitted. Francie's Cabin is equipped with propane cooktops, wood burning heat stove, firewood, cooking/eating utensils, mattresses and pillows, solar-powered lighting, wood burning sauna, toilet paper/paper towels, and cleaning supplies. Please note that there is no oven for baking.

Hut User Responsibilities: The success of the hut systems depends on the care provided by guests. You are responsible for leaving the cabin cleaner than you found it, including sweeping floors, cleaning the kitchen, washing your dishes, and hauling out all of your food and trash. Other instructions and rules are posted in the hut. Please do not snowshoe on the stairs or decks and do not lean skis or poles up against the windows.



No Dogs: Dogs are not permitted at or near the huts. This is due to social, aesthetic and wildlife concerns, and because of the need to melt snow for water. A U.S. Forest Supervisor's Order prohibits dogs within 200 feet of Francie's Cabin. Violations are punishable by law.

Hutmasters and Volunteers: SHA realizes that groups that reserve the entire cabin are seeking privacy. However, SHA does not prevent hutmasters or volunteers from staying in the downstairs Hutmasters' Quarters when one group has booked the upstairs. All hutmasters and volunteers are expected to respect the privacy of cabin guests while carrying out their maintenance duties. Maintenance staff is at the hut once a week and hut guests should not be surprised to encounter hutmasters or volunteers at the hut.

Check-In/Check-Out Time is 1:00 pm: Hut turnover time is 1:00 pm. Please time your travels so you arrive at Francie's Cabin after 1:00 pm. Upon departure, have your bags packed, cabin clean and other items on the "Before Departure - DO" list, which is posted at the check-in area in the cabin, and be ready to depart by 1:00 pm.

No Motorized Vehicles: Motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, are prohibited within the 16 acre envelope surrounding Francie's Cabin (designated by the U.S. Forest Service). Motorized vehicles may pass through the envelope on the designated route, but may not stop, park or play. Violations are punishable by law. Please plan to access Francie's Cabin under your own power, carrying your own gear.

Handicap Access: Francie's Cabin was built in accordance with the ADA and will accommodate persons with disabilities. However, Francie's Cabin should not be considered "easy access", as the trail to the cabin is a backcountry experience. For more information, please contact SHA.

Self-Reliance Required: You are on your own on the trail and at Francie's Cabin. You must be self-reliant and prepared for emergencies. Plan ahead and be prepared to execute a self-rescue. The county sheriff should be contacted in the event of an emergency (call 911, the Summit County Sheriff at 970-453-2232, or Summit County Dispatch at 970-668-8600).

How to Get to Francie's Cabin: There are a number of ways to get to Francie's Cabin, the majority of hut users access the hut via the Spruce Creek Trailhead or the Burro Trail from Breckenridge. Directions to the trailheads are provided, but you will need to have a map and/or guidebook for trail and route information. Accessing the hut is meant to be a backcountry experience and route finding is the responsibility of the hut user. Please be sure you have (and know how to read) a map.

Spruce Creek Trailhead: Please try to carpool as this is a very busy trailhead, especially on weekends. From Breckenridge, take HWY 9 south. At the intersection of Main St. and S. Park Ave, note your mileage. Proceed south on HWY 9 ~2.3 miles. Turn right onto Spruce Creek Road and follow Spruce Creek Road through the Crown subdivision, bearing left at major intersections. Stay on Spruce Creek Road for ~1.2 miles. Park at the trailhead parking area marked with US Forest Service Signs. Please be aware that the road does not receive high priority on the county's plowing schedule. From this parking area, there are various options to access Francie's Cabin. Route options include Crystal Creek Road (STEEP ~1.8 miles) and the Spruce Creek Road to the Aqueduct Road to Crystal Road (~2.2 miles). Both Spruce Creek and Crystal Roads are accessed by continuing southwest on the (unplowed) road from the parking lot. During winter months there is a large snowbank around the entire parking area, and Spruce Creek Road may not be immediately visible, but it continues out of the parking area in approximately the same direction that it came in on. Spruce Creek Trail provides a single track alternative to the roads; however it is longer and route finding is more complicated.

Burro Trail from Breckenridge: The Burro Trail starts at the base of the Peak 9 ski area in Breckenridge near Beaver Run Resort. Overnight parking is not permitted at Beaver Run in the winter, so it is necessary to park in the Town of Breckenridge Ice Rink Lot off of Boreas Pass Road on the south end of town (parking/shuttle directions below). The Burro Trail is a single track through the woods with nice views. Please purchase and bring with you a topographic map of the area and compass for specific trail directions. There is no signage on the trail directing you to Francie's Cabin. Parking/Shuttle Bus: Park at the Town of Breckenridge Ice Rink Lot. Free parking permits are available for SHA guests but you must contact the office well in advance of your trip to make arrangements for the passes to be picked up. Otherwise, you must purchase parking permits on the spot (currently \$5/24hrs/car). There are several easy bus options to get to Beaver Run. The Town of Breckenridge Grey Bus Route runs from the Ice Rink to Beaver Run, where you can access the Burro Trail. Additionally, the Town of Breckenridge Blue Route and Summit Stage Boreas Pass Route also pick up at the Ice Rink and will take you to the Breckenridge Transfer Station, where you can catch a ski area shuttle bus that will take you to Beaver Run. From the shuttle bus drop area at Beaver Run Resort, walk or ski south past the maze for the Beaver Run Quad chairlift (across the ski run, being careful for skier traffic), and toward the ski school area. You will see the USFS trailhead sign for the Burro Trail just past the ski school area. Using a topographic map, follow the Burro Trail to the Crystal Road or the Spruce Creek Road to Francie's Cabin.

Late Spring Directions: If you have a reservation at Francie's Cabin in the spring after the Breckenridge Ski Area has closed Peak 9 or in the summer, you may park overnight in the "E" Lot at Beaver Run. Be sure to post your parking permit on your dashboard or you may be towed. Make copies of the parking permit if your group requires more than one vehicle. This lot is occasionally closed in the summer for group functions, inquire at the front desk for alternate parking options or contact SHA.

More Information: Contact Summit Huts Association PO Box 2830 Breckenridge, CO 80424 (970)453-8583, summithuts@colorado.net, www.summithuts.org. SHA is a non-profit organization. Francie's Cabin is located in the White River National Forest and operates under special use permit from the Forest Service - USDA. SHA is an equal opportunity service provider.

Do not leave valuables in your vehicle when parked at trailheads. SHA is not responsible for theft or vandalism to vehicles

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PARKING PERMIT

SUMMIT HUTS ASSOCIATION/FRANCIE'S CABIN GUEST
WILL RETURN _____
NOT VALID FOR TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE ICE RINK LOT