TRIP ORGANIZER: Please be sure to share this information and other reservation information with your group prior to departure! Please bring your confirmation letter with you and post it in the designated location when checking into the hut.

HUT AMENITIES: Francie’s Cabin has 20 beds, divided among 6 rooms. The hut is reserved for one group only. 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, solar-powered lighting, indoor composting toilets, a wood burning sauna, toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies.

CAPACITY: Recommended occupancy is variable depending on time of season and ongoing COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Groups are limited to registered guests only. Overcrowding is in violation of SHA’s US Forest Service Permit and will be subject to fines and restrictions on all future reservations.

HUT USER RESPONSIBILITIES: The success of SHA depends on the care provided by our guests. You are responsible for cleaning the cabin when you arrive and depart. This includes sweeping floors, cleaning the kitchen, washing your dishes, wiping down and spraying all surfaces, and hauling out ALL FOOD AND TRASH (trash bags are provided). Other instructions and rules are posted in the cabin. Please do not snowshoe on the stairs or decks and do not lean skis or poles up against the windows.

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, even when one group has booked the cabin. All hutmasters and volunteers are expected to respect the privacy of cabin guests while carrying out their maintenance duties. Maintenance staff is at the cabin once a week and guests should not be surprised to encounter hutmasters or volunteers during their visit. All hutmasters and volunteers are fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

CHECK-OUT/CHECK-IN: Check-Out time is 11:00am. Check-In time is 2:00pm. Please time your travels accordingly to prevent any overlap of groups. Upon departure, have your bags packed, cabin clean and other items on the “Before Departure Checklist” finished. This list is posted in the main room. Be ready to depart by 11:00am.

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 at (970) 453-8583.

NO MOTORIZED ACCESS: During the Winter season (November to May), motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles, are prohibited on Spruce Creek and Crystal Lakes Roads. Violators may be subject to fines. Please access Francie’s Cabin under your own power, carrying your own gear.
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.

NO FIRES: Due to the potential forest fire danger, campfires are not permitted. Outdoor cooking is also not permitted as it attracts bears and other wildlife. It is illegal to discharge fireworks in the National Forest.

NO DAY USE: Day use is not permitted.

DIRECTIONS

SPRUCE CREEK TRAILHEAD
Go about 2.5 miles South of Breckenridge on Hwy 9 and take a RIGHT on Spruce Creek Road. It’s a sharp right that immediately banks upward. Opposite the turn is a lake. You’ve gone too far if you pass the lake and see residential lots on Hwy 9.

Follow Spruce Creek Road through the Crown subdivision, take a LEFT at Golden Nugget (3rd Left) and then a LEFT at Crown Drive. You should still be on Spruce Creek Road.

Follow Spruce Creek Road until a parking lot at the end of the road. This is the trail head.

FROM THE SPRUCE CREEK TRAILHEAD
Make sure you take the trail at the END OF THE PARKING LOT (it is hidden by a huge pile of snow in the Winter). The Trail splits after about ¼ mile.

SPRUCE CREEK ROAD 2.2 miles
Sharp RIGHT after about a mile. Follow the road up to the cabin.

CRYSTAL CREEK ROAD 1.8 miles
Steeper Route

SPRUCE CREEK PARKING: Please be sure to post the appropriate parking permit on your dashboard or you may be towed. Make extra copies of the parking permit if your group requires more than one vehicle. Do not leave valuables in your vehicle when parked at trailheads. Summit Huts is not responsible for theft or vandalism to vehicles.
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 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.

FROM THE BURRO TRAILHEAD 4.1 miles
If your pleasure is in the journey, enjoy this fairly long trail up to Francie’s Cabin.

STEEP CLimb
From Breckenridge and the Burro Trailhead follow the obvious Burro Trail South 3 1/8 miles to intersection with Crystal Creek Road. Follow the Crystal Creek Road 1 mile West to Francie’s Cabin.

A MORE RELAXED CLIMBING ANGLE
At Crystal Creek Road continue South on Burro Trail about 350’ and connect to Spruce Creek Road. Follow the road 1 mile to its signed intersection with the Wheeler Trail. Here, take an obvious road-cut that climbs to the right off Spruce Creek Road and follow the wide roadbed as it swings North into the Crystal Creek drainage, crosses Crystal Creek, and makes a short climb to the cabin.

BURRO TRAIL BUS OPTION: There are several bus routes to get to Beaver Run where you can access the Burro Trail. Please visit breckfreeride.com for detailed routes and schedules. 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 of 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. Follow the Burro Trail to the Crystal Road or the Spruce Creek Road to Francie’s Cabin.

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).

MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Summit Huts Association
Office | 524 Wellington Rd., PO Box 2830, Breckenridge, CO 80424
Phone | (970)453-8583 (M-F) Emergency Phone | (970) 389-2902
E-mail | summithuts@summithuts.org
Website | www.summithuts.org
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.