

Ski Trip to Jay Peak, Vermont, East Coast USA



Friday 4th April 2025 – Saturday 12th April 2025

We are delighted to once again launch our extracurricular school Ski Trip (open to all years) which will take us to Jay Peak in Vermont, USA at Easter 2025. Always anticipated with great excitement, this ski trip is perfect for beginners as well as advanced skiers and is a great way to make new friends. As our ski trip only runs every two years, this trip is the only one of its type we will run until 2027.

Although the trip will not run until the next academic year, we are launching it now, to enable payments to be evenly spread over the next year.

Located in Northern Vermont, Jay Peak is a self-contained ski and snowboard resort which boasts some of the best terrain East Coast USA has to offer. Jay Peak averages the most natural snow in Eastern North America each season at over 900cm, as well as offering an array of unforgettable evening activities including a year round water park and an indoor climbing centre - perfect for students of all ages. More information can be found at <https://jaypeakresort.com/>. We will also have a stopover in Boston before our return flight, with visits to Boston Aquarium, Quincy Market and opportunities for shopping.

Our accommodation will be the Stateside Hotel & Baselodge, with ski in, ski out access, where we will stay for 6 nights on half-board basis (drinks only included for breakfast) in multi-bedded rooms. There will be 5 days of skiing to enjoy with 5 full day lift passes, 5 days' hire of skis, boots, poles and helmets as well as 5 hours of ski tuition per day included. A further night will be spent in Boston, with opportunities for sightseeing and shopping. The après ski schedule has not yet been fully confirmed, but we have some exciting activities planned such as the Pump House Indoor Water Park, quiz night and our RPS awards night. Return flights and coach travel to UK airport, transfer to/from the resort as well as insurance (with the exception of personal items such as mobile phones, cameras and iPods) is included.

We are able to cater for students of all abilities, from absolute beginners (usually 20-30 each year) to advanced skiers. Students always ski with a qualified instructor and we have a very strict code of conduct which ensures the safety of all our students and others on the mountain. Students need not worry if their friends don't go on this trip, as they will ski in ability groups, providing a ready-made friendship group. We do not offer a snowboarding option.

The **cost of the trip is estimated at approximately £2255 per student depending on interest**, and is subject to fluctuations in flight costs and the final excursion program. In accordance with the Governors' policy on charging, this cost must be met through voluntary contributions from parents/carers. Please note that if they have not already got one, your son/daughter will also need to have a valid US Visa (ESTA charge currently \$21; available online). *Students who are 16+ at the time of travel will unfortunately also have to pay the UK Government's Advanced Passenger Duty which is currently £88 and will be invoiced separately.*

There are limited spaces available on this trip. Spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, based on the time/date stamp on your Operoo response. Once the available spaces have been filled, we will add your son/daughter to a waitlist, and any subsequent spaces will be offered in chronological order from the top of the waitlist.

If you wish to reserve a space for your son/daughter, please submit your response below in the first instance. The closing date for responses is Friday 24th November 2023. We will send a message via Operoo the following week, to advise if your son/daughter has been allocated a space and then you will need to pay a non-refundable deposit of £255 via parentpay, no later than Friday 8th December 2023.

The payment schedule for this trip is as follows:

Deposit: £255 by Friday 8th December 2023
Interim Instalment: £500 by Friday 29th March 2024
Interim Instalment: £500 by Monday 1st July 2024
Interim Instalment: £500 by Monday 30th September 2024
Final Balance: approx. £500 by Friday 6th December 2024

Once we have been able to secure bookings and finalised our après ski schedule, we will provide you with the exact details and cost of the trip as well as an equipment hire and activities waiver forms to complete.

If your son/daughter secures a place but then decides to withdraw from the trip, you will be liable for any cancellation costs if a replacement cannot be found. Please be aware that any cancellation must be put in writing and sent to the Finance Office. The school reserves the right to withdraw from the trip any student whose behavioural record at school proves inconsistent with the safe running of the trip.

We appreciate that this is an expensive trip and we have looked at various European options also. However, we decided to return to Jay Peak due to a better chance of good snow at Easter at all levels. In Jay Peak, the apres ski activities are all part of the Jay Peak resort which also helps us to safeguard our students.

If you have any queries relating to this trip please do not hesitate to contact Miss Manton in the Finance department.

With kind regards,

Mr P Seymour & Mrs L Gallagher
Trip Leaders

