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September 3, 2019

## ***September Tour Update***

Hello, Everyone:

September has arrived and it is less than one month until the tour starts, so this *should be* your final update before we see you in October.

### **PARTICIPANT LIST**

Here is the latest roster of participants. Due to some aircraft issues, we've had two couples join the Roadrunners, so that changes our group dynamics somewhat.

Bill Bernard and Mary Harney, Springfield, IL	Honda Civic YQS 878
Bill and Nancy Blake, Sarasota, FL	Cessna Skylane N423TA
Mike and Ginny Borner, Easton, MD Carl and Barbara Rigg, Grosse Ile, MI	Beechcraft King Air N96MB
Glenn Dahl and Linda Illig, Portland, OR Mark and Kathie Cassidy, Waterford, CT	Cirrus Jet N995VJ
Stan and Sharon Dardis, Woodbury, MN	Cirrus SR22 N755CP
Chester and Suzanne Harris, Dayton, OH	Jeep TBD
Paul and Marilyn Hollowell, Venice, FL	Cessna Skylane N5241S
Rick and Pam Keltz, Vail, AZ	Chevrolet Corvette BTA 4627
Richard Leofsky and Kay Dunn, Willis, TX	Cessna Silver Eagle N913SE
Ernie and Kris Salmon, Thousand Oaks, CA	Cessna Skylane N7477Q
Garney and Tricia Scott, Nashville, TN	Piper Malibu N945S
Collin and Marisa Fay, Denver, CO Roberto Vera, Asunción, Paraguay	Centurion N761GY

We're at 29 people, however John & Nancy Schneider will also be joining us at Mesa Verde, so that will be a fun addition.

### **EARLY ARRIVERS**

Thank you all for confirming your arrival date with me. The hotel has been informed of the early check-ins, as you requested and confirmed to me via email. You may remember that I have organized a [private tour of the Colorado State Capitol](#) for 2:00 pm on October 1<sup>st</sup>. I have generally assumed that anyone arriving early and already in town will be joining us for that; please let me know if you do not wish to participate so we don't wait for you. *Please be ready to depart the hotel lobby no later than 1:30 pm.*

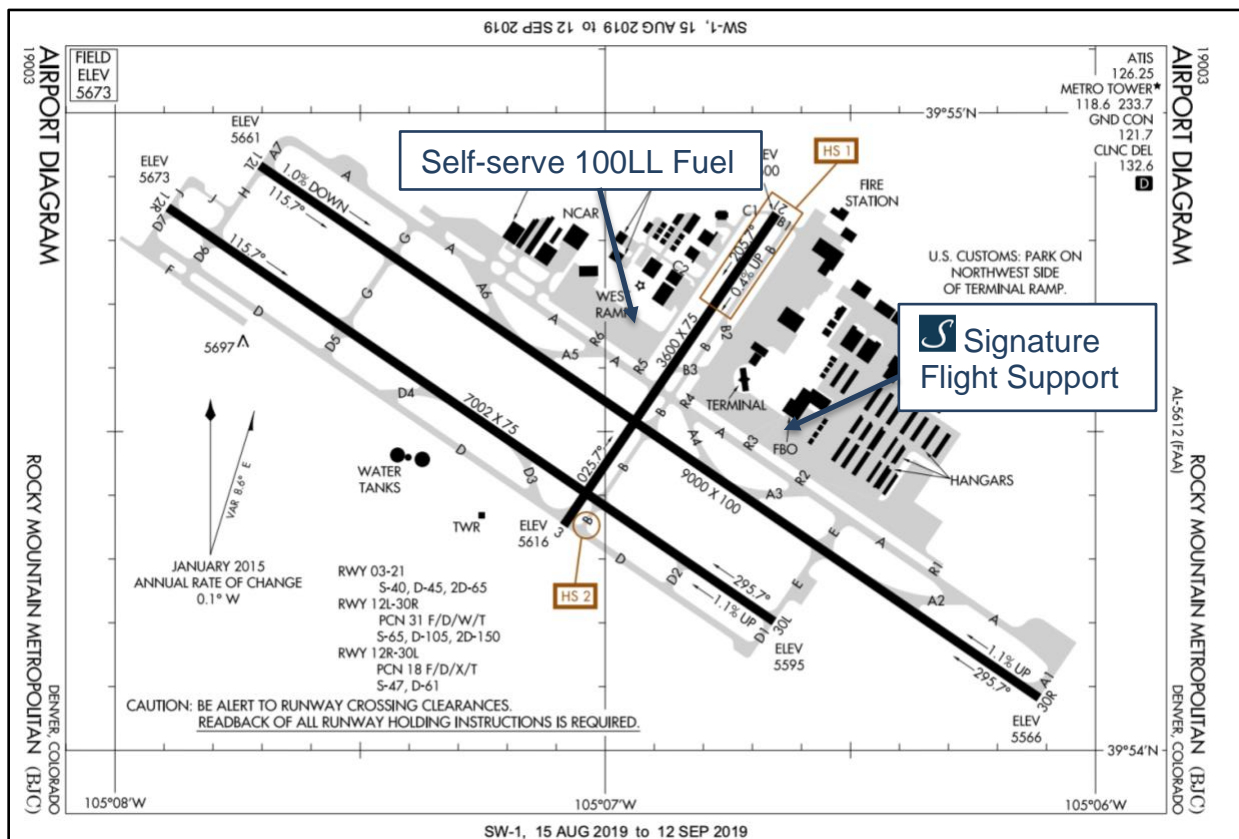
There are many ways to spend some free time in the Mile High City, and Denver has a variety of museums, attractions and tours in the downtown and surrounding area. Visit [www.denver.org](http://www.denver.org) for more information, or let me know what interests you, and I can certainly try to help guide your time.

It might be nice to gather up the early arrivers for a casual, pre-tour group dinner on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, if that's of interest. We can simply sort that out informally by text or email down the road.

### **DENVER ARRIVAL**

Here is what you need to know prior to our gathering for the Welcome Dinner on Day 1, Tuesday, October 1st. Keep this information handy (and maybe highlight where necessary)!

Upon arrival at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (BJC) in the northwest Denver area, park at the [Signature Flight Support](#) FBO. If you would like full-service fueling, please give them a fuel order so that your aircraft is fueled and ready to go prior to Thursday morning, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Make sure you let them know you are part of the Parkwest group. Following is an airport diagram showing the location of the FBO and self-service fuel.



Most of you are familiar with Signature FBOs and their service rates. BJC is no different, however they do not seem out of line; their fees are shown on the next page. Please note the minimum fuel purchase requirement (full-serve only) in order to have the "Handling Fee" waived. We have been assured a fuel discount for our group and are awaiting confirmation as to the exact amount.

Signature Flight Support - BJC  
**Aircraft Fees**

Aircraft Type	Handling (\$)	Parking (\$/night)	Infrastructure (\$)	Minimum Fuel Purchase to waive Handling Fee (Gallons)
Beechcraft King Air C-90	280	66	25	90
Cessna Centurion	39	13	5	10
Cessna Skylane	39	13	5	10
Cessna Silver Eagle	99	23	5	12
Cirrus Vision Jet	250	23	25	90
Cirrus SR-22	39	13	5	7
Piper Malibu	39	13	5	10

Signature Aviation can help you coordinate a car rental with National Car Rental (on-site), if you wish. (You can also contact National directly at 303-460-1548.) Otherwise, feel free to call a taxi or Uber to get to the Renaissance Denver City Center, at 918 17<sup>th</sup> Street, in downtown Denver. An UberX ride will run about \$30. Remember, *not* renting a car will save you from paying downtown Denver's high parking rates and, once there, you can tour by foot or public or hired transportation. We will all travel together, via charter bus, back to BJC for our group departure.

You are invited to gather in the hotel lobby at 5:30 pm (October 1<sup>st</sup>) for Happy Hour where there will be a section roped off for Parkwest Air Tours. We will leave the hotel at 6:20 pm for the quick walk across the street to Panzano's Restaurant for the Welcome Dinner. We will be in a private dining room, indoors, with a group menu.

### **OTHER AIRPORTS**

We have notified all the airports of our pending arrival (takeover?) at their facilities on the respective days. We were able to negotiate a fuel discount at only one other location: Sedona (\$0.20 off regular price). Cortez will charge a nightly tiedown fee (\$5 for singles, \$30 for the Cirrus Jet, \$50 for the King Air). On the upside, there are no fees at Wayne Wonderland, Richfield, Sedona, or Furnace Creek. We will review each airport and related fueling options, logistics, and pricing at the pre-tour briefing on Wednesday morning in Denver. One of our airports (Furnace Creek) does not have tie-down facilities, so we recommend that you bring ropes and anchors in order to secure your aircraft. There have historically been cables available there to tie to, so anchors may not be necessary, but it is always a good idea to carry those if you have them. We have several spare anchor/rope kits available that we will have with us on the tour.

### **FREE DAY ACTIVITIES**

There has been much information on this topic shared already, so I will be brief here. In short:

- Mesa Verde National Park: please reference my email of 8/31/19. It sounds as if many of you have successfully made reservations for the 700 Years Tour.

- Capitol Reef National Park: I have a good idea of what everyone is planning to do here, including those who wish to stay flexible and decide on arrival. You can review previous trip updates for more detailed information. For road-based excursions, please note the following:
  - Ernie and Kris have booked a ½-day tour by Suburban with [Fremont Guides](#), and would be happy to share the tour with anyone (max. 4 additional) who wishes to explore in a smoother, more protected ride than the Jeeping option. If this interests you, please contact Fremont, me, or [Ernie](#) and [Kris](#), or any combination thereof. Right now, they have only the one vehicle confirmed for that day.
  - Rick and Pam are planning on the full-day [Waterpocket Fold Jeep tour with Backcountry Safaris](#). Anyone else wanting to get in on this day is welcome. In addition to the two extra seats in their Jeep, there are two additional Jeeps available for a self-driving option, if you wish to participate in this manner. I am assured the guide will make several stops for interpretation and commentary so that the self-drivers do not feel left out. They prefer that you coordinate through me, so there is no confusion with potential call-in requests. They are currently blocking off the day for Parkwest customers.
- Death Valley National Park: We have paid a deposit to hold 6 Jeeps with Farabee's which should accommodate everyone who desires to use a vehicle there. It sounds like some of you are more interested in a paved road excursion to various points in the Park, while others want a more extensive, backcountry outing. None of that has to be decided in advance. Furthermore, any significant rainfall between now and then could affect the roads and therefore alter the backcountry loop we have in mind, so we'll stay flexible. If you choose to call Farabee's independently, please let them know you are with us, so they do not collect double deposits or reallocate vehicles. They are not sure how many Jeeps will be there this early in their season, and we might have secured all of them for our group. In short, if you have indicated you want to Jeep, I believe we have you accounted for, assuming everyone is willing to team up in groups of 4 or 5.

### **GPS ROUTE DEFINITIONS**

As mentioned previously, the route definitions for this trip are posted on the "[Tour Info](#)" page of our web site. The password for this page is **Cisne**. The Redtails' route definition page was recently updated, but only with a corrected altitude for the descent in to KRIF, so it will not affect your programming efforts. Please have your GPS units programmed with the waypoints and routes prior to the start of the tour. The group assignment sheet (Redtails, Ravens and Roadrunners) has been updated to reflect recent changes.

### **PACKING TIPS AND LAUNDRY**

As with any Parkwest trip, our advice on packing is:

- **Light**. Another tour guide once told me to put everything on your bed that you wish to take, leave it for awhile, then come back and cut it in half. It's a worthy goal and, personally, I come close but never *quite* make it. Apart from that, anything you can do to minimize the volume of luggage going into each destination will help you and everyone else, as it translates to more space in the vehicles, less time loading/unloading, and less

worrying about whether you have everything that came with you. Some of you are pros at this, and we salute (and thank) you!

- **Casual.** There is no meal, activity or venue that would require anything other than the most casual travel clothes and sensible footwear.
- **Layers.** Be ready to layer it on and peel it off with regularity. This early fall tour will probably offer up a bit of everything weather-wise, and don't forget that we'll have our feet on the ground everywhere from below sea level up to 8000' elevation. Your tour garment this year will be a light jacket, so you can plan to use that as one of your layers.
- **National Parks Pass and Passport.** Please bring them if you have them, as it might help with Park entrance logistics, and you can get a few more stamps in your book!

### **DIETARY RESTRICTIONS**

Please let me know if you have any dietary restrictions or food allergies. We have added one boxed lunch to the itinerary, and I will be pre-selecting its contents on behalf of the group.

### **CELL PHONE CONTACT**

Finally, if you haven't already, *please program these numbers into your phone* before leaving home:

Marisa's Cell #: 970-201-4557

Collin's Cell #: 970-260-6547

I think that's it for this installment. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks!

Best regards,



Marisa L. Fay