



**Mike Wiegele**  
Helicopter Skiing

ESTABLISHED 1970

***Guide to the World's  
Best Powder***

Blue River, British Columbia

# Welcome,

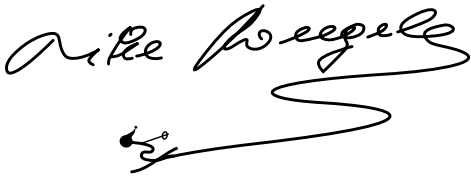
Thank you for considering Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing Resort for your heliskiing experience. For over forty years our family owned and operated company has provided the ultimate in heliskiing and boarding.

Nestled in the heart of the Cariboo and Monashee mountain ranges of British Columbia, the self-contained resort setting offers the perfect combination of natural beauty and first class amenities for your perfect vacation.

Please find the enclosed information package for your review. This will give you an idea of what Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing Resort can offer you and answer questions you may have.

If you have any questions or you wish to discuss options different from what you find in this package, please [contact us](#) at any time.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and welcoming you to our beautiful backyard.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Wiegele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that ends in a small flourish.

*Mike Wiegele - Founder, Lead Guide*



*Family owned and operated since 1970*

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# *The Cariboo & Monashee Mountains*

## **1,200,000 ACRES AND 1000 PEAKS**

Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing is located in Blue River, British Columbia, in the heart of the massive Cariboo and Monashee mountain ranges, where the warm air from the west meets the cold, dry air from the north and creates more than 10 metres (30 feet) of perfect powder each winter. With more than 1,200,000 acres of terrain and over 1,000 peaks, we ski/board at elevations of 1,046 - 3,569 metres (3,400 - 11,600 feet) so guests can enjoy the majesty of the high alpine glaciers as well as the splendour of the forested glades. Our wide variety of terrain lets us find exciting heli skiing/boarding for any ability level.

## **TERRAIN SELECTION**

Your guide chooses the day's terrain based on weather conditions, snow quality and stability as well as the group's skiing/boarding ability and the flying conditions. Our wide variety of terrain means that there is always a great place to ski/board every day – whether you are an intermediate, advanced or expert skier.

## **TERRAIN FOR INTERMEDIATE TO ADVANCED SKIERS / BOARDERS**

Your guide will select a skiing/boarding route that suits your ability and comfort level, and offers just the right amount of challenge. Depending on conditions, we often start with an open, moderate glacier run, or a gentler run through the trees. As the week proceeds, and your confidence increases we progress according to the group's abilities. Or for a gentler introduction to the back country experience, we offer Snowcat skiing/boarding packages which help you build confidence in the different types of terrain and snow conditions you may encounter.

## **TERRAIN FOR EXPERT SKIERS / BOARDERS**

When conditions allow we take advantage of our most exciting terrain. Your guide will lead you to the best possible snow, taking extra time to evaluate the snow stability before enjoying the challenge of steeper slopes.

## **GLACIER SKIING / BOARDING**

For many, high alpine glaciers provide the most exhilarating skiing/boarding experience of all - the freedom of carving hundreds of powder turns down a glacier surrounded by majestic snow covered peaks. When conditions allow, glacier skiing/boarding is suitable for all skill levels.

## **TREE SKIING / BOARDING**

For many, the varied terrain, never-ending challenge and the deep snow found in the trees provide the ultimate experience. The very highest quality of snow is found in the naturally spaced old growth forest where the loose powder is protected from wind and sun. We spend a great deal of our time within the forest glades and open spaces below the tree line, using the buddy system to increase safety.

## **EARLY SEASON SKIING & BOARDING**

The first seven weeks of the season let you take advantage of our reduced early season rates. Enjoy your fill of pristine powder while others wait for the first flakes to fall.

## **SPRING SKIING & BOARDING**

In April, when the days are sunny and warm in the valley, the high alpine glaciers are perfect for skiing/boarding. In most years April offers a deep snow-pack with good stability. It's a special time of the season for us.

## **DAILY HELISKIING**

Our 8 Peaks daily heliskiing packages offer an affordable option for those seeking the ultimate powder experience. The 3 or 5 run packages provide the opportunity to ski or board 8 amazing peaks surrounding Blue River. All packages include safety equipment, powder specific ski/snowboard rental and a mountain lunch.

## **NON-SKIING PACKAGES**

Non-skiers are welcome to experience our Heli Village Resort hospitality and enjoy our cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, climbing wall, massage therapists and fitness centre facilities.

## **OUR SEASON NEVER ENDS**

Our mountains' exceptional snow conditions let us ski year-round. Enjoy fresh glacier air when it is 30°C down in Blue River. Come and try heli skiing/boarding in July, August and September - you might even find a fresh layer of powder.

# ***Skiing/Boarding Packages***

Each Package offers the same outstanding skiing/boarding and exclusive Resort experience guests have come to expect from Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing.

## **EACH PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Unlimited vertical skiing/boarding
- Certified guides
- Gourmet meals and luxury accommodation
- Full access to resort amenities
- Use of powder-specific skis/boards for your heli-ski vacation

## **UNLIMITED VERTICAL**

Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing pioneered unlimited vertical. This means you pay the package rate only – unlike other operations, there are no additional charges for skiing more vertical. On a typical day we average approximately 20,000 vertical feet per day – that equates to 130,000 vertical feet in a week. Depending on time of year, ability of skiers, weather and snow conditions, many seven day groups ski 180,000 to 220,000 vertical feet – *that is a lot of vertical at no extra charge!*

## **HELI SKIING / BOARDING PACKAGES**

**7 DAY PACKAGE** - Arrive and depart Saturday noon; ski/board full days Sunday through Friday, plus Saturday morning.

**5 DAY PACKAGE** - Arrive Saturday, depart Thursday after skiing/boarding; or arrive Sunday, depart Friday after skiing/boarding.

**3 DAY PACKAGE** - Arrive Saturday, depart Tuesday after skiing/boarding; or arrive Tuesday, depart Friday after skiing/boarding.

### **Please note:**

3 and 5 day packages are available for the Deluxe program only.

We reserve the right to re-configure groups based on helicopter weight restrictions.

Each guest must participate in our safety briefing and training and must wear the supplied avalanche transceiver while skiing/boarding.

Standard in the helicopter skiing industry, all guests are required to read and sign our liability waiver and review all hazard signs before skiing/boarding or entering a helicopter. These documents can be previewed at [wiegele.com](http://wiegele.com). Please call us if you have any questions.

## UNLIMITED VERTICAL

The Deluxe week is the most popular of our Mike Wiegele Helicopter skiing/boarding packages.

### BELL 212 DELUXE FEATURES

Unlimited vertical

Feet of Vertical Lift Guaranteed:

7 Day Package - 80,000 vertical feet

5 Day Package - 50,000 vertical feet

3 Day Package - 30,000 vertical feet

2 professional certified guides per group

9 guests per group, 3 groups per helicopter

Gourmet meals & accommodation (double occupancy)\*

\*Single accommodation -\$215/day supplement, subject to availability.



# *Elite Package*

## **THE EXPERT SKIER/BOARDER PACKAGE**

The Elite guest is a strong and experienced skier/snowboarder who must have the endurance for a long and demanding day in all kinds of snow conditions and challenging terrain. We require a minimum of 8 guests for the Super Elite package. If we do not have 8 guests booked, skiers/boarders will be reassigned to the Deluxe Tour at the lower rate.

### **\*\*NEW\*\* BLUE RIVER SUPER ELITE**

Unlimited vertical (100,000 feet of heli lift guaranteed - 7 Day package)  
Bell 212 helicopter  
8 guests and 2 certified guides per group, up to 2 groups per helicopter  
Gourmet meals & accommodation (double occupancy)\*

### **ALBREDA ELITE**

Unlimited vertical (100,000 feet of heli lift guaranteed - 7 Day package)  
A-Star helicopter  
4 guests and 1 certified guide per group, up to 3 groups per helicopter  
Gourmet meals & accommodation (double occupancy)\*

\*Single accommodation -\$215/day supplement, subject to availability.

**Please note:** Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing reserves the right to place any Elite package guest who is experiencing skiing/boarding difficulties into a Deluxe group in Blue River (refunding the Elite premium paid).



## FLEXIBILITY & COMFORT

Guests choose Private packages for unparalleled flexibility, comfort and freedom. In consultation with your guide and pilot, you can ski/board as much or as little as you wish each day. Semi-Private packages place two groups with each helicopter, preserving much of the flexibility and freedom of Private packages but at a reduced cost. The Private and Semi-Private packages are based on allocated flying hours. Additional flying hours are available.

### PRIVATE BELL 212

- 1 group of up to 10 skiers
- 2 certified guides
- Gourmet meals & accommodation (double occupancy)\*

### PRIVATE A-STAR

- 1 group of up to 4 skiers
- 1 certified guide
- Gourmet meals & accommodation (single occupancy)

### SEMI PRIVATE A-STAR

- 2 groups of up to 4 skiers
- 1 certified guide per group
- Gourmet meals & accommodation (double occupancy)\*

\*Single accommodation -\$215/day supplement, subject to availability.



# ***Snowcat Package***

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO POWDER**

Snowcat skiing/boarding offers a relaxed introduction to backcountry skiing/boarding and mountain safety skills, helping you build confidence in all types of terrain and snow conditions - including powder!

### **3 DAY SNOWCAT SKIING/BOARDING**

Unlimited vertical  
1-2 certified guides per group  
1 group of up to 12 skiers/boarders  
Gourmet meals & accommodation (double-occupancy)\*

### **2 DAY SNOWCAT & 5 DAY HELI SKIING/BOARDING**

Unlimited vertical  
1-2 certified guides per group  
1 group of up to 12 skiers/boarders  
Gourmet meals & accommodation (double-occupancy)\*

### **1 DAY SNOWCAT & 6 DAY HELI SKIING/BOARDING**

Unlimited vertical  
1-2 certified guides per group  
1 group of up to 12 skiers/boarders  
Gourmet meals & accommodation (double-occupancy)\*

\*Single accommodation -\$215/day supplement, subject to availability.



## HOW TO BOOK YOUR PACKAGE

Most guests prefer to take advantage of advanced booking incentives and rebook their vacation packages while in Blue River. Those guests preferring to book later in the pre-season should begin by contacting a Reservations Coordinator. Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing's Reservation Coordinators work with you to book the heli ski/board or Snowcat package that best suits your skill level and interest.

### 1) CONTACT A RESERVATION COORDINATOR

1 800 661 9170(North America)  
++1 250 673 8381 (International)  
250 673 8464 (f)  
[reservations@wiegele.com](mailto:reservations@wiegele.com)

### 2) MAKE YOUR DEPOSIT

Mike Wiegele Helicopter packages are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you do not send a deposit by the agreed date we will release your booking and reserve the right to sell the package. Your package is confirmed once we receive the following deposit (per seat):

Snowcat: \$500 CAD  
Snowcat & Heli: \$1,000 CAD  
Deluxe: \$1,000 CAD  
Elite: \$2,000 CAD  
Private/Semi-Private: \$3,000 CAD

Once we receive your deposit we will reserve your seat until the full payment due date. Deposits sent for bookings that have not been confirmed by a Reservations Coordinator will not be accepted.

### 3) COMPLETE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Approximately 12 weeks prior to your ski/board week you will receive a final payment reminder. At that time you will be required to complete the following forms which are available through a Reservations Coordinator or online at [www.wiegele.com](http://www.wiegele.com).

**Questionnaire for Skiers/Boarders:** to determine skiing/boarding ability and group placement  
**Massage Request Form:** includes preferred appointment times  
**Personal Health Profile:** personal health information is held in the strictest confidence

# ***Booking Your Trip***

## **4) MAKE YOUR FULL PAYMENT**

Your final payment is due 10 weeks prior to your first day of skiing/boarding and your reservation will automatically be cancelled if we do not receive full payment by this date. Your deposit will not be refunded.

## **PAYMENT METHODS**

Please contact a Reservations Coordinator for more information on making deposits and final payments. Payments are accepted in Canadian and US funds only. Any payments in US funds will be credited to your account at our exchange rate, which may change without notice. We are pleased to accept the following payment methods:

BANK WIRES

PERSONAL CHECK(US or Canadian Funds)

VISA

MASTERCARD

ONLINE PAYMENT OPTION FOR CANADIAN BANK CLIENTS



## CANCELLATION POLICY

Our reservation and cancellation policies are standard in the helicopter skiing industry. Significant financial commitments related to helicopters, employees, fuel, and supplies are made during summer and fall.

**More than 6 Months Prior to your Reservation:** Your deposit will be refunded minus an administration fee (\$250 Snowcat, \$500 Deluxe/Elite or Snowcat/Heli tours; \$1000 Private tours per seat).

**Less than 6 Months Prior to Your Reservation:** Your deposit is non-refundable.

**Less than 10 weeks Prior to Your Reservation:** Full payment including deposit is non-refundable.

**Reservation Changes:** Any changes to ski/board packages are subject to an administration fee.

## REFUND POLICY

Ski packages are sold in units, beginning and ending on specific days. No refund is given, in whole or in part, for un-used days or transportation, resulting from late arrival or early departure. Likewise, 'Town Days' are non-refundable. If inclement weather or helicopter service issues prevent us from reaching the guaranteed vertical footage specified in your package, we will refund the un-skied footage at the rate of:

\$30 per 1,000 vertical feet as an in-house credit to be used on the current trip or \$40 per vertical feet as a credit for Deluxe or an Elite seat for the following year (standard hourly rate guarantees apply for Private packages)

If the skier cancels the reservation and is able to find a replacement skier for the seat(s), all money on account will be refunded less an administrative fee upon full payment by the replacement skier.

No refund will be provided if a person is injured while skiing or if a person chooses not to ski for part or all the Tour (i.e. early return) and the Tour reserved herein attains the minimum guaranteed vertical footage.

## INSURANCE

We strongly recommend you purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance, as well as coverage for medical and evacuation expenses.

# ***Accommodation & Resort Amenities***

## **HELI VILLAGE RESORT**

Mike Wiegele's Heli Village Resort in Blue River, British Columbia provides exclusive luxury in a self-contained resort setting. Unique in the heli skiing industry, the resort allows guests to enjoy the best of the day's powder and then return to their exclusive log chalet accommodation and village amenities. In addition to private and shared log chalet accommodation, the Heli Village Resort offers the exclusive services and amenities needed to create a unique and memorable vacation.

## **THE MAIN LODGE**

The main lodge is the centre of the Heli Village Resort and houses many of our guests' favourite facilities.

## **POWDER MAX DINING ROOM**

One of the rewards of active mountain life is eating well, a pleasure we take seriously in Blue River. Under the guidance of Executive Chef, Toni Spöri, gourmet meals and attentive service make dining in Blue River the perfect complement to a great day of skiing/boarding. With advanced notice we can prepare and serve meals in your chalet, accommodate special dietary needs or help you celebrate a special event.

## **AWARD WINNING WINE CELLAR**

Our cellar features some of the best wines from around the world selected by our on-site sommelier to complement any meal and satisfy our most discerning guests.

## **SILVER BUCKLE LOUNGE**

Named after our famous "1,000,000 Vertical Feet" Award - the Silver Buckle Lounge is where guests relax with a drink by the fireplace, catch up on the sports highlights on the flat screen televisions, enjoy live music and relive the week's highlights in the Friday Night Show.

## **FITNESS CENTRE**

Our fitness centre features 15 Nautilus weight machines, free weights and a fully equipped cardio room. After a day in the mountains you can relax in the saunas or hot tub or enjoy a stretch class in the studio.

## **MASSAGE**

Our massage therapists are available throughout the winter season. Request a massage prior to arrival through our [online massage request form](#) or book an appointment on arrival (subject to availability).

## **BONNIE'S BOUTIQUE**

Our boutique carries a wide selection of clothing, souvenirs and accessories for your ski vacation.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Guest accommodation is provided in our exclusive 22 handcrafted log chalets – each with 1 to 6 bedrooms. Each chalet has a shared common area including a kitchen, a living room with fireplace, satellite TV and DVD player. Typical bedrooms have 2 double-sized beds or one king-sized bed, ensuite bathroom, sitting area and telephone. 6-bedroom chalets have their own sauna. Most Private packages offer helicopter service at your chalet.

## **THUNDER RIDGE CENTRE**

The Thunder Ridge Centre houses the front desk, guest lobby, reservations department, the conference room and the administration department.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Blue River does not have cell phone service. All rooms have telephones and wireless internet is available throughout the resort.

## **GUIDES HAUS**

The Guides Haus is the heart of Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing's operations. The guiding team meets twice daily to collect and review all avalanche/weather/safety-related data and to complete hazard evaluations. The Guides Haus contains the weather office, avalanche research office, the Canadian Ski Guide Association's office, a climbing wall (available to guests) and the Village's medical clinic.

## **SPORT SHOP**

The Sport Shop provides guests with state-of-the-art powder skis and snowboards designed for use in Wiegele terrain. Expert technicians tune your equipment nightly and then deliver your skis/board to your helicopter pad each morning as a value-added service.

## ***Private Accommodations***

### **BAVARIAN HOUSE ESTATE & CABANA BLUE RIVER**

Located across the lake from the Heli Village Resort, the distinguished and private Bavarian House Estate offers everything needed to pamper up to 18 guests in high mountain style. The Estate consists of the finely crafted 9,000 square foot - 6 bedroom Bavarian House and the 6,000 square foot - 3 bedroom Cabana. Meals are prepared by your private chef and served in the Bavarian House dining room. Lavish comforts include stone fireplace, private spa, sauna, games room, wireless internet and a private housekeeper.

BAVARIAN HOUSE SUPPLEMENT: \$12,000/week

BAVARIAN CABANA SUPPLEMENT: \$6,000/week

### **ALBREDAL LODGE**

Albreda Lodge is the perfect retreat in intimate luxury and exclusivity for guests that prefer a more boutique experience. Albreda Lodge offers up to 20 guests a traditional mountain chalet experience and quick access to the northern reaches of Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing's vast terrain. Located 45 km north of Blue River, the handcrafted wooden lodge offers stunning views of Mount Albreda and is the perfect private retreat.

Albreda Lodge can be reserved by several small groups or by one larger group who has booked Elite, Private or Semi-Private packages. If Albreda Lodge bookings do not meet the minimum required to operate the lodge then guests will be accommodated in the Blue River Heli-Village Resort.

### **ALBREDAL LODGE FEATURES**

17 rooms plus a luxury 2 bedroom Albreda Suite

Gourmet meals served in an intimate 20 person dining room

Fully equipped ski shop and boutique

Fitness room, steam room, hot tub and massage rooms

Telephone, fax, wireless internet and satellite TV in rooms

Fiber-optic link to Blue River Heli Village Resort, including video link to Guides Haus

Climbing wall

### **ALBREDAL SUITE**

For those guests seeking the ultimate in private luxury, the 2 bedroom Albreda Suite offers a full kitchen, living room with fireplace, private balcony, and two luxurious bathrooms. The master bedroom has a king-sized bed, fireplace and ensuite bathroom, while the second bedroom contains two double beds.

ALBREDAL SUITE SUPPLEMENT: \$4000/week

## **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CELEBRATION - KIDS CAT-SKI FOR FREE**

*December & January*

Bring your family to Blue River and experience a traditional family Christmas that includes carols with Santa, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and a beautifully ornamented Christmas tree in every chalet. Then celebrate New Year's in style with our gala dinner, music, dance and champagne. Our Family Holiday package allows up to 2 children per family (5 to 12 years of age) to Cat-ski, eat and stay for free when both adults book a 3, 5 or 7 day heli skiing/boarding package.

## **CHRISTMAS KIDS SKI & SNOWBOARD CAMP**

*December*

Our annual Christmas Kids Ski & Snowboard Camp is designed for children aged 5-16 years of all abilities and takes place on Saddle Mountain. Each child will receive personal ski/board training, an introduction to back country and mountain safety and environmental sustainability education.

## **SPRING KIDS SKI & SNOWBOARD CAMP**

*April*

Our Annual Spring Kids Ski & Snowboard Camp is designed for children aged 5-16 years of all abilities and takes place on Saddle Mountain. Each child will receive personal ski/board training, an introduction to back country and mountain safety and environmental sustainability education.

## **SPRING FLING**

*April*

As spring approaches, we end our season with an Annual Spring Fling Week. Spring Fling is all about getting together with friends and family, eating excellent food and cutting loose. Join us for a special week of fun events and - of course - amazing skiing.

## **CANADIAN SKI GUIDE ASSOCIATION (CSGA) SUMMER GLACIER SKILLS COURSE**

*September*

Held at the Grizzly Hut in the Monashee Mountains, the Summer Glacier Skills Course is a development course for CSGA students who want to learn more about glacier travel, crampons, rope techniques, placing protection, ice axe use during snow and ice travel, rescue techniques, navigation, route selection, trip preparation and mountaineering ethics. Prerequisite: Level 1 CSGA.

Please contact a [Reservations Coordinator](#) for more information about our special events.

# Guiding & Safety

At Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing our goal is to provide you with the ultimate skiing/boarding experience. Traveling safely in the mountains requires that our guides balance excitement and challenge with your safety and comfort.

## MOUNTAIN SAFETY

Safety is our #1 priority. Our safety systems are the best in the business and our guides are highly trained to provide you with a safe and exhilarating powder experience.

## SNOW STABILITY ASSESSMENT AND TERRAIN SELECTION

Your guide chooses the day's terrain according to snow conditions and stability. When the snow stability is good we have many options. When snow stability is fair or poor we ski/board more moderate slopes to reduce the risk of exposure to potential avalanches.

Guides meet each morning and evening to analyze weather and snow stability data which has been gathered from field observations, snow pit profiles and three remote weather stations. This information is then used to choose the day's terrain.

## DELUXE TOUR GROUPING

Your completed [Heli Ski Questionnaire](#) helps us to determine what kind of skiing/boarding group will be best for you. After arrival, you will meet with our grouping guides to discuss your ability and interests, enabling them to refine the grouping arrangements and assign you to the group that is best for you.

## SKIING/BOARDING SAFELY WITH YOUR GUIDE

To ensure everyone's safety, you must give your full attention to your guide's instructions at all times and ski/board within the safety parameters they set. Our policy is that all guests ski/board with a buddy in the trees or in visually demanding conditions.

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Each guest receives an Ortovox transceiver which must be worn while in the mountains and guests are instructed in its use before beginning skiing/boarding. Some guests also choose to carry a light shovel pack equipped with a shovel and probe available for use from our Sport Shop.

## **MOUNTAIN RESCUE**

Guides and staff regularly practice emergency procedures and have prepared for potential rescue situations in the mountains. All guides carry rescue equipment and first aid supplies in their packs and each helicopter carries first aid equipment, oxygen, rescue ropes and an avalanche pack. Rescue caches in key mountain locations are equipped with a toboggan, crevasse rescue equipment and survival equipment.

## **RADIO REPEATER AND WEATHER STATIONS**

Three repeater stations support uninterrupted communication throughout the backcountry to enable the Blue River base station to constantly monitor helicopter and guide operations. Each day guides collect weather data from three remote weather stations located at Blue River base (2,240 feet), Mt. St. Anne (5,800 feet) and Hroch Peak (8,600 feet).

## **AVALANCHE RESEARCH AND FORECASTING**

Initiated in 1990 by Mike Wiegele, the Avalanche Research and Forecasting program provides scientific research to helicopter ski operators and other industries. Project partners include Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing, the Federal Government and the University of Calgary research team.

## **NORBERT WIEGELE AVALANCHE RESEARCH TRUST FUND**

The Norbert Wiegele Avalanche Research Trust Fund supports a world-class snow science research facility and training program in Blue River. For more information – or to donate to the Avalanche Trust Fund – contact a [Reservations Coordinator](#) in Blue River.

## **MEDICAL FACILITIES**

All of our guides have extensive first aid training. Typically each week, a physician is available to ski with guests and is able to attend to any medical concerns. Our medical clinic is in the Guides Haus and is equipped to meet the medical needs of our guests. Guests requiring advanced medical care are taken to local healthcare facilities.

**BLUE RIVER** – Interior Health Clinic for basic health care.

**CLEARWATER** – Dr. Helmcken Memorial Hospital for general medical services and basic emergency care.

**KAMLOOPS** – Royal Inland Hospital for specialist attention and advanced medical care.

# *Trip Preparation & Information*

## **TRAVEL TIPS**

We recommend that you review the travel checklist prior to leaving home for your Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing vacation.

## **TRAVEL CHECKLIST**

- Check your confirmation letter
- Obtain the recommended insurance
- Inform Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing of your travel arrival and departure details
- Pack your airline ticket and valid passport
- Review the [sample liability waiver](#)
- Carry your ski or snowboard boots as airplane carry-on luggage

## **PRE-ARRIVAL PHONE CALL OR E-MAIL**

Please call our Reservations Department to finalize your arrival plans so that we may plan shuttle transportation and prepare for your arrival.

## **VISIT YOUR BANK**

There are no banks in Blue River or at Albreda Lodge, so you must complete your currency exchange before arrival. An ATM is available in the Thunder Ridge Centre. We accept Visa and Master Card as well as Canadian and US dollar traveler's cheques from recognized banking institutions. Only North American personal cheques are accepted. We keep limited cash at the resort and are unable to advance cash on credit cards or cash large traveler's cheques.

## **INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation, trip interruption, health and evacuation insurance. Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing does not provide health, life, injury, trip cancellation, trip interruption or evacuation insurance.

## **FOR TRAVEL AND INSURANCE SERVICES, WE RECOMMEND:**

Jessielyn Stevens  
UNIGLOBE Specialty Travel Ltd.  
1 800 455 0007 (North America)  
++1 604 688 8816 (International)  
604 688 3317 (f)  
[wiegele@uniglobespecialty.com](mailto:wiegele@uniglobespecialty.com)

## TRANSPORTATION

Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing's Heli Village Resort and Albreda Lodge offer some of the most convenient and reliable access in the heli skiing industry. Both lodges are served by a well-maintained, all-weather, primary highway. Road travel from Kamloops to Blue River takes approximately 2.5 hours in good weather. Kamloops, located 214 km south, offers the closest airport and Blue River has a 5,600-foot airstrip.

There are many options for travel to Blue River – most involving some combination of air and ground transit. Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing waives any responsibility for trip cancellation or interruption resulting from any travel options listed.

### OPTION 1: COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT THEN GROUND TRANSPORTATION

Several airlines provide flights to and from the Kamloops Airport.

#### AIR CANADA

[www.aircanada.com](http://www.aircanada.com)

Daily flights from Vancouver, British Columbia and Calgary, Alberta

#### WESTJET

[www.westjet.com](http://www.westjet.com)

Daily flights from Calgary, Alberta

### GROUND TRANSPORTATION FROM KAMLOOPS TO BLUE RIVER

**PERSONAL VEHICLE** - Road Travel from Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton takes approximately 6-8 hours.

#### COURTESY SHUTTLE (7 Day packages only)

On Saturdays, our courtesy shuttle provides guest transportation from the Kamloops Airport and local hotels to Blue River. All travel times are approximate and subject to change due to weather. Please plan connecting flights accordingly. Please note that an early departure or late arrival guest is responsible for making his or her own travel arrangements.

#### **Kamloops to Blue River: Saturday morning pick-up**

8:20 am Hotel Five540Forty  
8:30 am Plaza Heritage Hotel  
8:50 am Coast Canadian Inn  
9:30 am Kamloops Airport

#### **Blue River to Kamloops: Saturday afternoon drop-off**

1:00 pm Depart Blue River  
4:00 pm Arrive at Kamloops Airport  
(subject to weather)

## PRIVATE GROUND TRANSPORTATION

### FIRST CLASS LIMOUSINE

++1 250 314 7733 (International)  
250 372 9393 (fax)

### BUDGET CAR RENTAL

www.budget.com  
1 800 268 8900 (North America)  
++1 250 374 2848 (International)

## OPTION 2: POWDER AIR - COMMERCIAL FLIGHT FROM VANCOUVER TO BLUE RIVER

The Powder Air provides a convenient travel option for our guests with a scheduled direct flight from Vancouver to Blue River each Saturday. For information, or to book the Powder Air, contact UNIGLOBE Specialty Travel.

### **UNIGLOBE Contact:** Jessielyn Stevens

1 800 455 0007 (North America)  
++1 604 688 8816 (International)  
604 688 3317 (fax)

[wiegele@uniglobespecialty.com](mailto:wiegele@uniglobespecialty.com)

## OPTION 3: PRIVATE PLANE TO KAMLOOPS OR BLUE RIVER

### FLYING INTO BLUE RIVER

Blue River has a 5,600 foot paved landing strip (uncontrolled aerodrome) located 1 km north of the Heli Village Resort. No fuelling or maintenance services are available.

For Blue River landing strip conditions, call ++1 250 673 8289

## OPTION 4: COMMERCIAL FLIGHT THEN HELICOPTER

Guests may book a helicopter (Bell 212 for up to 10 guests or A-Star for up to 4 guests) for travel from Kamloops to Blue River. Private groups may use a portion of their allotted helicopter time for travel. Please contact a [Reservations Coordinator](#) for details. All flights subject to weather.

Aircraft entering Canada may clear customs in Kamloops, British Columbia daily from 8:00 am to midnight. Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing takes no responsibility for any flights into Blue River and waives any responsibility for trip cancellation or interruption. We strongly recommend guests purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance.

#### Notice to Airmen

(NOTAM)/Flight Information Centre:

1 866 992 7433 (North America)

++1 (250) 376 9237 (International)

Canada Customs/CANPASS:

1 888 226 7277 (North America)

**Please Note:** Flying into Blue River is highly dependent on good weather and visibility. Blue River is in a mountainous area with constant weather changes. Pilots may encounter adverse conditions including wildlife, fog, cloud, rain, snow, wind, or an icy runway. If the scheduled aircraft cannot land in Blue River due to weather conditions, alternative ground transportation can be arranged.



## ***Enroute Accommodations***

Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing guests receive a special discounted rate from the following conveniently located hotels (subject to availability). On Saturday, our courtesy shuttle picks up guests at each Kamloops location (see Transportation for times p. 21).

### **KAMLOOPS**

#### **COAST CANADIAN INN**

339 St. Paul St., Kamloops, BC V2C 2J5

250 372 5201 (tel)

250 372 9363 (fax)

[www.coasthotels.com](http://www.coasthotels.com)

#### **HOTEL FIVE 540 FORTY**

540 Victoria St., Kamloops, BC V2C 2B2

250 372 2281 (tel)

250 372 1125 (fax)

[www.hotel540.ca](http://www.hotel540.ca)

#### **PLAZA HERITAGE HOTEL**

405 Victoria St., Kamloops, BC V2C 2A9

250 377 8075 (tel)

250 377 8076 (fax)

[www.plazaheritagehotel.com](http://www.plazaheritagehotel.com)

### **VANCOUVER**

#### **THE FAIRMONT VANCOUVER AIRPORT**

3111 Grant McConachie Way

Richmond, BC V7B 1X9

1 800 441 1414 (North America)

++1 604 207 5200 (International)

604 248 3219 (fax)

[www.fairmont.com/vancouverairport](http://www.fairmont.com/vancouverairport)

#### **THE EMPIRE LANDMARK**

1400 Robson Street,

Vancouver, BC V6G 1B9

1 800 830 6144 (North America)

++1 (604) 691 1991 (International)

604 691 1999 (fax)

[www.empirelandmarkhotel.com](http://www.empirelandmarkhotel.com)

#### **THE FAIRMONT WATERFRONT**

900 Canada Place Way, Vancouver, BC V6C 3L5

1 800 441 1414 (North America)

++1 (604) 687 0511 (International)

604 687 7267 (fax)

[www.fairmont.com](http://www.fairmont.com)

### **CALGARY**

#### **THE DELTA CALGARY AIRPORT**

2001 Airport Road N.E., Calgary, AB T2E 6Z8

1 888 890 3222 (North America)

++1 403 291 2600 (International)

403 291 3414 (fax)

[www.deltahotels.com](http://www.deltahotels.com)

## **WHAT TYPE OF SKIER/BOARDER SHOULD I BE?**

You should be at least an intermediate level skier/boarder. Less advanced skiers/boarders are encouraged to develop their powder and backcountry skills with a Snowcat or Snowcat & heli vacation package. If you have questions about your skiing/boarding ability, please contact our Reservations department.

## **WHAT SHOULD I WEAR?**

Waterproof technical outerwear with room for several layers underneath is best for powder skiing/boarding and variable weather. Some guests wear helmets and they are available in the Sport Shop. We supply shovel packs, but you may use your own small backpack to hold personal items.

Note: No personal items can be left in the helicopter while skiing/boarding.

## **WHAT KIND OF FITNESS TRAINING CAN I DO TO PREPARE?**

In order to fully enjoy your heli ski/board vacation you should be fit, healthy and injury-free. Many guests choose to ski/board at their local resorts in order to fine-tune technique and increase fitness prior to their Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing vacation.

## **HOW MUCH WILL I SKI/SNOWBOARD EACH DAY?**

We usually ski/board 20,000 vertical feet (that equates to around 8-10 runs per day) but on good weather days we may ski/board up to 20 runs.

## **DO I HAVE TO SKI /BOARD ALL DAY?**

No. The helicopter refuels 2 to 3 times per day and the pilot may be able to coordinate your flight out with the fuel run. Please advise your guide in advance if you know you will want to ski/board a partial day.

# Typical Ski Week

	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
<b>Saturday</b>	Our courtesy shuttle bus will meet you in Kamloops and escort you to Blue River or Albreda Lodge. The Powder Air flies directly from Vancouver to Blue River.	Your guide will take you on a tour of the Resort and show you to your chalet. A hot lunch is provided in the dining room.	Dinner is served at 7 pm. You will be seated with your guides and other members of your group.
<b>Sunday</b>	Optional stretch class at our Fitness Centre. Breakfast is served from 7-8 am. Transceiver usage training, avalanche search practice and helicopter safety briefing is at 8 am - attendance is mandatory. Depart between 9:30-10 am and ski all day.	Guests may return to the resort with any refueling run if he/she only wants to ski part of the day. Lunch is flown into the mountains to enjoy as a picnic and includes hot tea and soup. Optional stretch class is available after skiing at our Fitness Centre.	Welcome Party: Social Sunday in the Silver Buckle Lounge. Come for a bite to eat and complimentary beer and get acquainted with everyone. Dinner is served at 7 pm.
<b>Monday to Friday</b>	Optional stretch class at our Fitness Centre. Breakfast is served from 7-8 am. Meet at Guide's sign at 8:15 am. Depart for skiing at 8:30 am.	Lunch is flown into the mountains to enjoy as a picnic and includes hot tea and soup. After skiing, enjoy a stretch class, whirlpool, massage, sauna, or simply enjoy the après-fun in the Silver Buckle Lounge.	Dinner is served nightly at 7 pm. Join us with live music in the Silver Buckle Lounge après skiing and again post dinner Wednesday to Friday. At the end of the week, we celebrate the week's successes and stories with our Friday Night Show.
<b>Saturday</b>	Breakfast is served from 7-8 am. Checkout is required by 8:30 am before skiing departure.	Return from skiing by 11 am - change clothes for the journey home. Lunch is served in the dining room at 11:30 am. After lunch, our courtesy shuttle or Powder Air is ready to take you on your journey home.	



## BRÜDERSCHAFT - BLUE RIVER

In March 1996, six friends sat together talking about the Bruderschaft in St. Christoph Austria, and its history of helping people since the 14th century. These friends share a love of life and the mountains and so decided to start a similar organization with those who come to Blue River. Open to women and men through invitation by a member. Money collected through memberships is used to assist those in need or to fund worthy projects in the Blue River community. 250.673. 8381 [www.bruderschaft.ca](http://www.bruderschaft.ca)



## Mike Wiegele Members Club

*Thank you to all our Private A-Star Members*



ATOMIC

[www.atomic.at](http://www.atomic.at)  
[www.atomicsnow.com](http://www.atomicsnow.com)



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GOLDMINER'S DAUGHTER  
LODGE

[www.goldminersdaughterlodge.com](http://www.goldminersdaughterlodge.com)



HESTRA

[www.hestragloves.com](http://www.hestragloves.com)



HOTEL GOLDENER BERG

[www.goldenerberg.at](http://www.goldenerberg.at)



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[www.arlberghospiz.at](http://www.arlberghospiz.at)



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[www.skimarmot.com](http://www.skimarmot.com)



ORTOVOX

[www.ortovox.com](http://www.ortovox.com)



PEPI GRAMSHAMMER

[www.wedelweeks.com](http://www.wedelweeks.com)



RICHARD WALTER

[www.skischule-arlberg.com](http://www.skischule-arlberg.com)



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[www.smithoptics.com](http://www.smithoptics.com)



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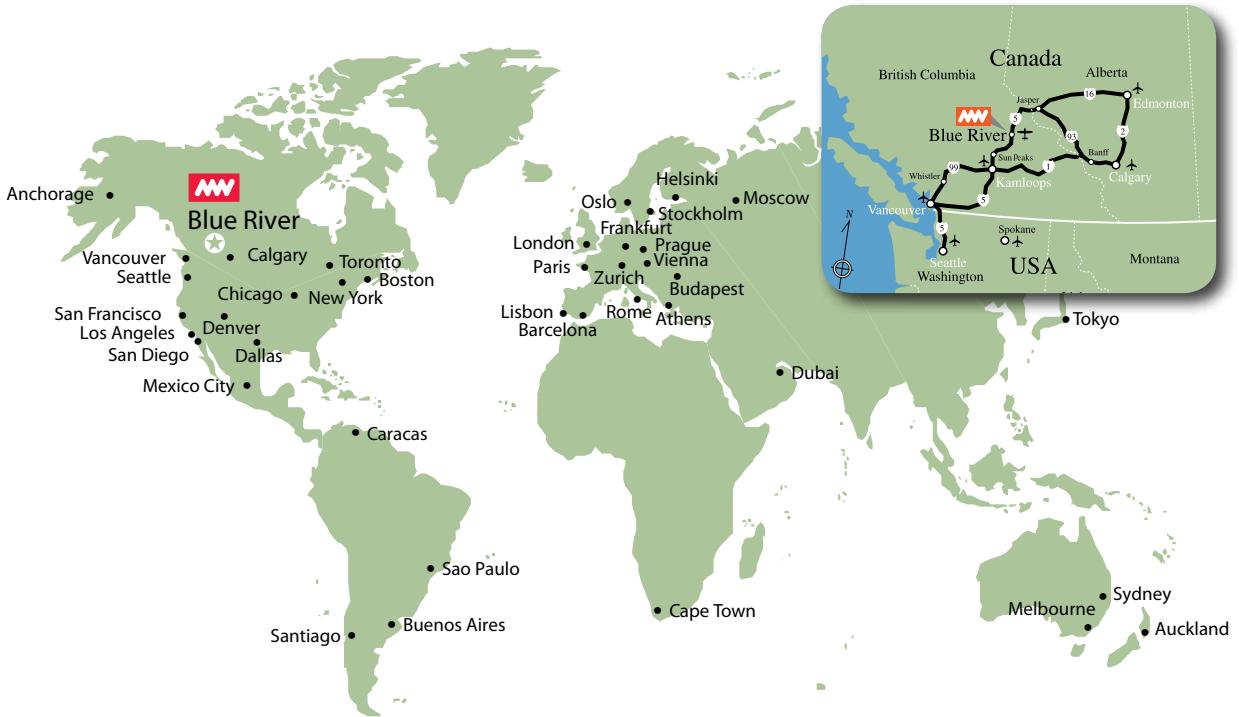


VIH

[www.vih.com](http://www.vih.com)

# Mike Wiegele Helicopter Skiing

ESTABLISHED | 1970



## **CONTACT US TODAY**

1 800 661 9170 (North America)

++1 250 673 8381 (International)

250 673 8464 (fax)

[reservations@wiegele.com](mailto:reservations@wiegele.com)

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[wiegele.com](http://wiegele.com)

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