

For First Time Ever Airlines Charging For Skis and Snowboards Bags

Source: Ski Butlers Park City Ski Rentals

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Over the past year, the troubled airline industry has been looking for ways to increase revenues, leading them to start charging for every service they can think of; meals, snacks, curbside check-in, and now your skis. You name it you pay for it.

Park City, Utah...I could never quite understand why skiers and golfers could check their equipment for free. My lightweight bike, windsurfer and surfer board has always been charged least a \$75 fee each way. But forget about the good old days, fees for skis is here and probably to stay. Over the past year, the troubled airline industry has been looking for ways to increase revenues, leading them to start charging for every service they can think of; meals, snacks, curbside check-in, etc. You name it you pay for it. We knew it would come and now it has arrived.

With the cost of ski and snowboard equipment going up, casual skiers have for years debated whether to buy, lease or rent. The latest fees for baggage check-in may put many over the top. With the escalating fee for each bag checked it now makes more sense then ever to rent. If you can't fit your ski boots in your suitcase with your ski and street apparel you will end up with at least 3 bags; one for clothes, another for skis/snowboard and a third for ski boot). With the new fee structure the first bag will cost between \$15 and \$25. The second checked bag will cost between \$25 and \$50. The third bag really hits the pocketbook, with a charge of \$100 and in the case of Delta Airline \$125. (See fee chart below).

Don't worry about renting; it isn't like it used to be. New in-room fitting services are the in thing now. No more trips to the usually overcrowded, dark and smelly rental shop. Instead of wasting time standing in line, companies like industry leading Ski Butlers (877-754-7754, www.SkiButlers.com) will come to your accommodations and in the comfort of your lodging fit you for all your equipment needs. With extended hours of operation you can be fitted at your convenience from early morning (7 a.m.) to as late as 9 p.m., seven days a week. "It's hassle-free," explained Bryn Carey. "Ski Butlers is in the business of making it easy to rent. We are focused on customer service," he added. "Our goal is to take the stress out of renting skis and boards and all of the hassles associated with going to a rental shop; standing in line, and lugging all of the equipment back to your lodging, especially if you have kids."

Let's look at the numbers. The cost of buying new high performance skis and boots at a ski shop is \$1100 to \$1500. Cost of checking boot and ski bags, \$130 and if you have three bags the total skyrockets to \$380 on Delta. Renting a high performance plus skis for 4 days, \$236. That means if you ski only a few time per year you can rent for 5 to 7 years for the same price as buying and paying baggage fees. Plus you will have the latest equipment and style.

Ski Butlers is an innovative leader in the ski delivery business. Carey emphasizes the fact that this is a high quality service without a big price tag. Leaving your ski equipment at home is cost effective in this new age of baggage fees.

Ski Butlers features high quality equipment from industry leaders Rossignol, Volkl, Roxy, Nordica, Dolomite, Marker, Fischer, and Elan. As a full service rental service, Ski Butlers also rents helmets, boot dryers, and 2-way radios. If you forget your sun screen, sun glasses or lip balm, no worries they have a nice selection of accessories including mittens, hats and hand warmers.

(Chris any ideas to reword this sentenance???) So as I said don't worry about the baggage fees in-room

fitting services like Ski Butlers can provide at a fraction of the cost, in a convenient way with the newest ski and snowboard equipment on the market. It is easy, give it a try.

Sample baggage fees from select Airlines:

Carrier	Bag 1	Bag 2	Bag 3
Delta	\$15*	\$50	\$125
United	\$15	\$50	N/A
A/A	\$15	\$25	\$100
US Air	\$15	\$25	\$100
Southwest	FREE	Free	Free

*starting in November

Ski Butlers ski and snowboard rental prices:

High Performance Plus \$49-\$59
High Performance \$31-\$41
Sport and Junior Packages \$25-\$32

About Ski Butlers...Founded four and half years ago in Park City, Utah, Ski Butlers has become the leader in in-room fitting. Ski Butlers serves over 25 resorts in Colorado, California, Utah, Wyoming and British Columbia, Canada. These include the top 9 resorts as rated by readers and editors of SKI Magazine in their "Top 50 Resort Rankings" issue. Currently, Ski Butlers operates at the following locations: Heavenly, Kirkwood, and Sierra in California; Aspen, Snowmass, Highlands, Buttermilk, Breckenridge, Keystone, Copper, A-Basin, Telluride, Vail, Beaver Creek, and Arrowhead in Colorado; Park City, Deer Valley, The Canyons, and Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon resorts in Utah; Jackson Hole in Wyoming; and Whistler/Blackcomb in British Columbia.

<http://www.skibutlers.com/vail-beaver-creek-ski-rentals/Location.aspx>
<http://www.skibutlers.com/park-city-deer-valley-canyons-ski-rentals/Location.aspx>
<http://www.skibutlers.com/whistler-blackcomb-ski-rentals/Location.aspx>

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Ski Butlers delivers high quality ski and snowboard equipment rentals to its customers at over 25 North American Resorts. Ski Butlers has been featured in The Wall Street Journal, Conde Nast Traveler and SKI and Outside Magazines.

Category Sports, Tourism
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