

The Hearts Center FREEDOM 2007 Conference

Overview

Welcome to FREEDOM 2007 and Bozeman, Montana! Bozeman is a mountain town with an elevation 4,800 feet and a residential population of around 29,000. I say residential because Montana State University adds another 13,000 students to this number during the school year. The city is ringed by mountains, with the taller peaks approaching 11,000 feet.

These mountain ranges and their national forests are within 10 minutes of the city; offering incredible skiing in the winter. The Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin rivers come together just west of the city to make the headwaters of the Missouri river. These three rivers as well as the many other streams and rivers emanating from the mountains make for superb fly fishing.

Hiking is also a prime recreation sport and there is a trail just right for everyone. There are an infinite number of trails ranging from relatively easy walks through the woods and meadows to scaling the mountains themselves. Add to this, there are over a dozen parks within the city, just minutes from the conference hotel. And with free time each morning and early afternoon, you will have plenty of time to explore and enjoy the beauty that the Bozeman area has to offer.

Airport

The Gallatin Airport is about 10 minutes northwest of Bozeman by vehicle. It is served by United, Northwest, Delta and Skywest airlines. Our conference hotel, the Hilton Garden Inn, does provide shuttle service. A direct phone to the hotel can be found in the baggage claim area of the airport. Call upon your arrival so that the hotel shuttle van will be there by the time you claim your luggage.

Dining

One of the challenges of hosting a conference is providing dining opportunities to suit all conferees. That's a tall order! As a short overview, the conference hotel does have a café that serves either a complete or a continental breakfast. The hotel breakfast is in addition to your room charge. We have also contracted with the hotel for a light dinner buffet to be available 4 evenings of the conference for \$15 per meal. This dinner buffet *must be ordered by June 10*. Please order these on our website store by June 10th.

There are six restaurants within walking distance of the hotel (1-4 blocks) and many more restaurants within a 5-minute drive. A full page listing of restaurants with a city map will be provided each conferee upon arrival.

Transportation around the City

In addition to private cars, we will have 2-3 vans for shuttling conferees around Bozeman. The plan is for the vans to operate much like taxis. The Hearts Center dispatcher at the hotel as well as the van drivers will all have cell phones and maps. The group can be dropped off at a trailhead, swimming pool, park, restaurant or wherever their destination may be. And when they're ready to be picked up, they call the dispatcher and give their exact location. The dispatcher in turn calls a van driver and routes the van to them for pickup.

Activities

Numerous activities will be available during your conference free time. These activities range from hiking (easy to difficult), swimming, taiji, hot springs, Museum of the Rockies, Chi Gong, etc will be posted at the registration/communication area of the conference. These are all optional activities, options to make your conference experience as fulfilling as possible. You may have something totally different in mind and we encourage you to use your time as you see fit.

Lodging

A list of hotels is posted on The Hearts Center website under Events. For those desiring roommates to share a room may contact our lodging coordinator:
lodging@theheartscenter.org

Camping

Campsites have been reserved in the Gallatin National Forest about 20 minutes south of the conference hotel. These are beautiful sites in the mountains next to a fast moving mountain stream. If you would like to camp out contact:
lodging@theheartscenter.org.

Youth Overnight

A supervised overnight campout, high up in the mountains of Gallatin National Forest is being planned for the teens. Their campsite is on the bank of a mountain stream which feeds into the Hyalite Reservoir. The Hyalite Creek Trailhead, considered the premier hike in the entire Bozeman area, is just a mile or so from their campsite. This trail passes eleven water falls in a deep canyon with massive cliff walls and majestic peaks. It leads to Hyalite Lake some 5 miles up the mountain.