

Skoki Lodge

*In the
Canadian Rockies*

Date of Construction: 1930-1931;

Additions: 1935-1936

Original Owner: Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies

The lodge was the first facility built specifically to cater to ski-tourists on a commercial basis in Canada, and possibly North America. It was built by a group of Banff residents who formed the Ski Club of the Canadian Rockies to manage the operation. The first guests arrived for skiing in the spring of 1931.

The main building was made of local logs with saddle-notched corners. A log one-storey kitchen was added in the summer of 1931. In 1935-1936, Jim Boyce made a series of additions, including the upper floor and roof dormers and what is now the living room. He also added three or four log cabins for sleeping to increase the original capacity. Like the builders of several other backcountry lodges in the area, Boyce started out as a tour guide and outfitter. In 1938 he went on to build a log lodge in Lake Louise, which later became the Post Hotel. The lodge maintains a small library with books on local history and flora and fauna. There are numerous historic photographs and ski equipment dating back to the early 1930's. More information can be obtained through the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies.