



Team Journal – Part 12

Monday 23rd August

This morning we had a reasonably early start so that we could drive to the airport by 9 a.m. This involved the usual checking and handling of our collective mountain of luggage.



... our collective mountain of luggage ...

It took us a while to check in, as always, but we were not required to open our rifle cases and the system of pre-clearance for the US in place at Toronto airport meant that we dealt with US Customs and Immigration before we left. Our plane left promptly at noon and we arrived at Denver airport at about 1 p.m. Central Mountain Time (gaining 2 hours in the process).



... a reasonably early start

At Denver any thoughts that that pre-clearance would mean that we could be on the road quickly rapidly dissipated. By the time we had picked up the vans and rifles it was 3.30. A minor problem was that baggage claim tickets were required to claim our rifle cases and Jumbo had left with his to catch another flight to visit with family during our R & R period - he was tracked down by mobile phone before he boarded.

3½ hours' driving through the flat foreground of Colorado with the Rockies providing the backdrop brought us to Echo Canyon Ranch where we are to spend the next 2 nights before going on to shoot at Raton. We just had time to unpack before dinner, after which the team's competitive spirit was harnessed to games of pool, air hockey and table football.



... the flat foreground of Colorado with the Rockies as backdrop ...



Part of Echo Canyon Ranch



Ross, Toby and Alwyn get into the spirit of staying on a dude ranch.