

Welcome to Snowfall Lodge

Information Package 2023



Group organizer: please ensure that your entire group receives this information.

. IMPORTANT INFO

Your trip begins on Saturday, exchange day. You will meet at the staging area near Beaton (directions to follow) at **9:00 AM PST** to organize gear and sign waivers before flying into the lodge. Please be prepared and ready to go! The helicopter arrives by 9:30 AM; if you think you will require more time to sort gear, please arrive earlier.

There is no cell service at staging or on the road from the ferry. Make sure you are well prepared for snowy

conditions and know the directions to staging **before** you leave town. The nearest cell reception is at the ferry terminal at Galena Bay.

Expect to arrive back at staging the following Saturday by 12:00 PM PST if there are no weather delays.

Please check www.drivebc.ca for road closures before you leave, particularly if there is a storm in the forecast. **Both Highways 1 and 31 occasionally have closures for avalanche control.**

WHAT TO PACK

All personal gear must weigh less than 55 pounds. This includes clothing, drinks and skis. This gear must fit into 2 small packs (40 litres or less). To keep your weight down, wear your ski boots and ski clothes, including helmet, inside the helicopter.

PACKING LIST

- Skis
- Skins
- Poles
- Boots
- Probe
- Shovel
- Avalanche transceiver- please do NOT plan on using smartphone apps instead of a transceiver
- Gortex jacket and pants
- Scarf or neck buff
- Long underwear tops and bottoms
- Fleece or wool pullover or jacket
- Ski touring or mountaineering pants
- Socks
- Camera
- Water bottle
- Goggles
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen/lip cream
- Sun hat
- Warm hat/toque or beanie
- Gloves
- Headlamp
- Toiletries
- Towel
- Hut clothes
- Earplugs
- Drinks- cans please!
- Day pack
- Towel for the sauna
- Ski crampons**will let you know 2 wks before departure if necessary

PROVIDED AT THE LODGE

- Hut shoes- cros in various sizes
- Sorel boots (5 pairs)
- Rubber boots (8 pair) for walking between buildings
- Yoga mats
- Duvets
- Pillows
- Sheets
- Pillow cases **please do not bring sleeping bags
- Computer for internet access
*emergency and staff use only
- Harnesses
- Beer for sale- \$5/can- limited brand selection
- All food and snacks EXCEPT for lunch on the first day

HINTS FOR KEEPING YOUR WEIGHT DOWN

- empty your water bottle
- wear your ski boots and don't bring extra boots or shoes; these are provided
- wear your ski clothes and helmet in the helicopter
- do not bring too much extra clothing. The drying room at the lodge works well and will dry equipment overnight.

THE HELICOPTER

The flights into Snowfall will normally be with an A-Star helicopter which seats 5 people and has a ski basket and rear cargo compartment. All flights will leave from the staging area. It is roughly a 20 minute turnaround from staging to the lodge.

On the first flight, the pilot will shut down and give a safety briefing. On subsequent flights, the machine will be running while loading and unloading takes place- make sure you are ready when the machine arrives!

There is limited room on the helicopter, so please pack light and avoid bulky items. Your personal gear should fit into 2 small packs (30-40 litres each). Your total weight for personal gear cannot exceed 55 pounds including drinks and skis. The weight limit is strictly enforced. Do not show up at staging with more and expect to fly it in. Do not bring large packs or duffle bags as these are difficult to pack in the helicopter. Do not bring hard suitcases or rolling duffle bags with a hard back.

Drinks are particularly heavy. For beer it is preferable to pack cans (which can be crushed for the flight out) instead of bottles. There is beer

for sale at the lodge if you are having trouble keeping under your weight limit.

If you think you will be over the limit, you can make arrangements ahead of time to pay for an extra flight.

The helicopter company, Glacier Helicopters, is based out of Revelstoke. If an extra flight is required from Revelstoke due to a late arrival, injury or somebody needing to get out midway through the week, or for any other reason, the cost will be about \$1200 CAD.

In the event of bad weather, the helicopter may be delayed or may not be able to do the exchange on the scheduled day. In this case the exchange will happen on the following day. Groups should make travel plans accordingly. In the event that you are not able to fly in on the scheduled day, you will be responsible for your own food and lodging in Revelstoke. If you are at the lodge and the exchange is delayed, there will be no extra charge.

Icefall/Snowfall Lodge does not cover the cost of an evacuation. If there are any costs associated with rescue, these are the responsibility of the participant.



Snowfall Lodge is a relatively new lodge. It was completed in the summer of 2017 and has been hosting skiers ever since. It is a comfortable, spacious lodge with 9 guest bedrooms with 2 beds per room. There are separate rooms for the guides and cook.

An exciting new development this season is a micro-hydro system that provides the lodge with electricity. The system is still being developed, so we may not have full power all the time. Please be conservative with electricity. There will be enough power for lights and to charge cameras, devices, etc. but not enough for any sort of large appliance. We also may turn the power off at night so be prepared with a headlamp. We have a gas-powered generator and solar panels as back-up.

There is satellite internet at the lodge but no wireless. The internet is for emergency communications and staff use only. The satellite couldn't keep up with the demands from many devices at once, many of which have automatic uploads. Anybody needing use of the internet during their stay, please contact info@icefall.ca ahead of time.

There is cold running water at the lodge through a gravity fed system. There is a sink downstairs for brushing teeth, washing hands and filling up water bottles.

The lodge is heated by a wood stove. Please try to conserve firewood as there is a limited supply and it is a big effort to get it to the lodge. Staff will look after lighting and tending the fires. Let the fire go out overnight; the building holds heat well. Do not leave doors open.

There is a drying room in the lodge with a propane heater. This will be lit during dinner and will stay on for a couple of hours in the evening. Please put your gear in the dry room after skiing, then leave the door closed to allow the room to heat up. Leaving the door closed will make the drying more effective; we also vent the moist smelly air directly outside. Do not place anything directly on the heater and be careful that things hanging above the heater are not too close. There is also a boot rack in the drying room that blows air through the boots. It usually takes only

couple hours to dry gear. A large pot which is placed on the wood stove downstairs. This water can be used to fill thermoses in the morning. To check the temperature, feel the side of the pot instead of sticking your finger in it! There is also a stainless steel dipper for this pot.

There are two outhouses outside and an indoor pee toilet upstairs in the lodge. The pee toilet is for urine only! Any solid waste, toilet paper, vomit, etc. will clog the 1 1/4 drain pipe and that will be it for the season. There is a water jug beside the toilet in the washroom. After using the toilet, pour a bit of water to rinse. A paper bag next to the toilet is used for toilet paper.

There is a separate sauna building close to the lodge. It has a wood stove, attached change room, 2 shower stalls and deck. Heat the water in the large pots and use the watering can for showers. You will need to bring your own towel. This low-tech system has worked well.

LODGE RULES:

- No food, garbage of any kind to be left outside or in the outhouse; it attracts animals.
- Urine only in the pee toilet; no paper, solid waste or vomit please!
- No candles, lanterns or open flames; please use headlamps.
- No smoking while inside the building.
- No chopping wood inside, especially on sauna tiles or slate.
- Please keep doors closed.
- **Please try to conserve while at the lodge.**

THE TERRAIN



The lodge sits at 1575m/5160 ft. The peaks are at 2800m/9180 ft.

Google Earth coordinates:

Lodge site: 50 58' 28.3" N
117 33' 14.2" W

Staging: 50 46' 22.6" N
117 40' 36.0" W

There is A LOT of great tree-skiing close to the lodge. You could spend an entire week skiing trees without ever having to venture too far from the lodge.

Directly above the lodge, about 2 hours of skinning, gets you into the glaciers and surrounding peaks. There's also lots of great terrain- both treed and alpine- further afield.

We have our own radio repeater on one of the nearby peaks. The radio frequency is: 162.885 Rx, 167.895 Tx, narrow band, Tx tone 100.00

DIRECTIONS AND LOGISTICS

Due to its remote location, the best option to reach the Snowfall staging area is by vehicle. Car rentals can be arranged at the Calgary and Kelowna airports by a number of companies. You can also fly into Spokane, WA, about 6 hours drive. Please make sure you have winter tires.

Once you arrive in Revelstoke, there is no public transport to the Beaton staging area. You may be able to arrange transportation with some of the other participants.

It takes about an hour and 45 minutes to get from Revelstoke to the staging area. This includes an inland ferry across Upper Arrow Lakes which leaves every hour on the hour. If you catch the 8 am ferry, you should get to staging on time. The drive from Revelstoke to the ferry takes approximately an hour in winter; please give yourself time; this road is often slippery.

PLACES TO STAY

We recommend that you stay somewhere nearby the night before. The closest town to staging is Trout Lake, approx. 17 km from the Beaton turn off. Trout Lake is a small hamlet with very few amenities but there are a couple of options for accommodation:

- Trout Lake Windsor Hotel, Troutlakewindsorhotel@gmail.com, 250.369.2244
- Trout Lake Retreat, www.troutlake-retreat.com, 250.369.2206

The town of Nakusp is about an hour drive from the staging area from the south. Previous guests have stayed at:

- The Lodge at Arrow Lakes, www.arrowlakeslodge.com, 250.265.3618
- The Leland Hotel, 250.265.3314 or look them up on Facebook.

The town of Revelstoke, located along the TransCanada Highway to the North, is a busy ski town with lots of options for accommodation and services. Previous guests have enjoyed:

- The Regent Hotel, www.regenthotel.ca, 250.837.2107
- The Courthouse Inn, www.courthouseinnrevelstoke.com, 250.837.3369

There is also a small, rustic cabin at the staging area which is available to rent for \$50/person/night. There are 8 beds (dorm style) upstairs, a wood stove and a basic kitchen with a propane stovetop. There is no electricity or running water so be prepared to rough it. Please let us know- info@icefall.ca- if you're interested in renting it and we can give you more details.

FROM REVELSTOKE	FROM NELSON
<p>Drive south on Hwy 23 to the Shelter Bay Ferry. Give yourself at least 45 minutes in snowy conditions.</p> <p>The ferry runs every hour, on the hour and is free. The ferry ride is 25 minutes. About 1 km after disembarking the ferry at Galena Bay, turn left at the Hwy 31 Junction to Trout Lake. Approximately 17 km later, the highway turns to gravel and has a signed fork. Take the left fork marked Beaton.</p> <p>Descend the 5 km long Beaton Hill. Use caution on this section; it is often slippery. At the base of the hill, just before a big logging crane, turn right onto the Cambourne Road. Look for a stop sign, then a radio channel sign marking the road. Drive 6 km along the Cambourne Road to where it is no longer plowed. The plowed turnaround is the heli staging area where you can deposit your gear.</p> <p>Once you're deposited your gear, park your vehicle in the plowed lot near the grey seacan on the NW side of the road, about 100 m before the turnaround.</p>	<p>Take Hwy 6 North via Slocan Valley and Nakusp, about 2.5 hours driving time. At Nakusp, turn right onto the Hwy 23 North towards the Galena Bay Ferry, about 45 minutes driving time.</p> <p>Just before the ferry terminal, turn right onto Hwy 31 towards Trout Lake. Approximately 17 km later, the highway turns to gravel and has a signed fork. Take the left fork marked Beaton.</p> <p>Descend the 5 km long Beaton Hill. Use caution on this section; it is often slippery. At the base of the hill, just before a big logging crane, turn right onto the Cambourne Road. Look for a stop sign, then a radio channel sign marking the road. Drive 6 km along the Cambourne Road to where it is no longer plowed. The plowed turnaround is the heli staging area where you can deposit your gear.</p> <p>Once you're deposited your gear, park your vehicle in the plowed lot near the grey seacan on the NW side of the road, about 100 m before the turnaround.</p>

*Tips are appreciated by staff. Cash given directly to staff is preferred. Tips going through Icefall Lodge do not work out well for the staff. Tip amounts are usually 10% of the trip price and are split equally by staff at the lodge. Thanks!