



Summer

Check In

Check-in is at 9:00 am at the Lake Louise Summer Gondola.

The Lake Louise Summer Gondola is located at #1 Whitehorn Road, roughly a 5-minute drive from the village of Lake Louise. The Skoki Lodge reservations desk is located on the upper level of Whiskyjack lodge at the Group Sales desk.

All members of your party must check-in and sign a waiver before heading out to Skoki Lodge.

After check-in you will be directed to the Fish Creek parking lot for shuttle transfer to the Skoki Lodge trailhead. The only guaranteed shuttle departure from Fish Creek parking lot is at 10am. Late arrivals may have to hike the 4 kilometers from Fish Creek parking lot to the Skoki Lodge trailhead.

Please note that all vehicles must be left at the Fish Creek parking lot for the duration of your stay. If you are not driving yourself, please let us know that you will need transportation to the trailhead prior to arrival.

Hiking Directions

The trail starts approximately 100 m (330 ft) across a ski run from the shuttle drop-off point and is well signed. The hike to Skoki Lodge is approximately 11 km (6.8 miles) and guests can expect it to take them 3-5 hours depending on ability level.

The hike has a total elevation gain of 470 m (1541 ft) and will take you through spectacular subalpine terrain, alongside Ptarmigan Lake, up Deception pass to an elevation of 2485 m (8150 ft), and then down 320 m (1050 ft) into Skoki Lodge.

For a detailed map of the trail to Skoki Lodge, as well as trails in the area, we recommend Gaia GPS or similar smartphone app. We do not recommend AllTrails for trails in the Skoki valley.

Lodging & Amenities

Skoki Lodge was constructed in the early 1930s, and we pride ourselves on keeping Skoki Lodge's backcountry, rustic spirit alive. We are entirely off the grid and do our best to keep all aspects of the operation as close to the founding time period as we reasonably can. However, rustic doesn't mean uncomfortable!

- Heating is a combination of propane and wood stoves.
- Lighting is done by candles and kerosene lamps.
- Bedding is soft and cozy: down duvets*, and wool blankets.
* Synthetic duvets are available upon request to accommodate allergies.
- Each room is equipped with warm wash water and basins for freshening up after a long day of exploring.



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- After a day of exploring, relax in the main lodge:
 - Help yourself to a book or board game from our library
 - Enjoy a charcuterie plate and glass of wine by the fire
 - Musically inclined? We have an upright piano and guitar
 - Outhouses are used for toilet facilities, and are cleaned three times a day.
 - Need to charge your phone or camera?*
- There is a power strip available for guest use. The charging strip is located in the drying room, a communal space for guest to hang up their wet gear.
- * Please bring your own charging cables.

Meals

Breakfast and dinner are plated service, served family-style at Skoki Lodge's dining room table, and everything (and we mean everything) is cooked or baked from scratch in our kitchen.

Breakfast is at 8:00 am sharp, and includes a hearty mix of sweet and savory foods to satisfy all appetites before a big day of adventures in the mountains.

Lunch is a build-it-yourself affair: sandwiches made on fresh-baked bread, cookies, trail mix, and fruit to keep you energized throughout your day.

Charcuterie boards are available every afternoon to welcome you back from your hike.

Dinner is seated at 6:45 pm and is a three-course meal consisting of bread and salad, main course, and dessert. No one leaves Skoki Lodge hungry, and our portion sizes reflect this!

We can accommodate most allergies at Skoki Lodge but we cannot guarantee against cross-contamination. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions when you book. All food is included with your reservation.

Beverages

Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are self-serve, available all day, and are included with your reservation.

Alcohol is available for purchase by either cash or credit card, no debit. We maintain a seasonally-updated wine and beer lists; please email us if you would like a current list.

Our liquor license stipulates that guests may bring their own alcoholic beverages to Skoki Lodge, but they cannot be consumed in the dining room or living room areas of the main lodge.



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Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea is a service offered to day hikers and backpackers in the area. Baked goods, hot drinks, and a selection of alcoholic beverages are available for purchase. Only cash or credit card are accepted. While we are happy to provide Afternoon Tea service to non-guests, indoor seating is reserved for Skoki Lodge guests only.

What to Bring

Weather in the backcountry is hard to predict, and can quickly change. Snow is possible even in the summer months so please take this into account when considering what to pack. Below is a list of suggested items to pack for Skoki Lodge to maximize your comfort during your stay.

- Change of clothes for relaxing at Skoki Lodge
- Waterproof / windproof jacket and pants
- Indoor shoes or slippers
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunblock lotion and lip protector
- Insect repellent
- First aid kit including blister repair and emergency tarps
- Headlamp
- Thermos and/or water bottle
- Personal toiletries
- Charging cables for your electronic devices

Skoki Lodge is unable to provide back country rescue services. You are responsible for your own safety. Travelling with an emergency SOS communicator and bear spray is strongly recommended. In the event of an emergency please call 911 or contact Banff National Park Dispatch at 403-762-1470.

Day of Departure

On the day of your departure a shuttle will pick you up from the trailhead and transport you back down the access road to Fish Creek parking lot. The only guaranteed shuttle departure from the trailhead is at 3:00 pm. If you need to leave the lodge early there is no guarantee that an earlier shuttle departure can be arranged so please plan to walk the additional 4 km down the access road to Fish Creek parking lot.



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FAQs

1. What is your reservation procedure?

A deposit equal to 50% of the total reservation charge is required at time of booking. The guest has 72 hours from the time of booking to cancel the reservation and receive a credit note valid for two years from the date of cancellation will be issued. After 72 hours the deposit is non-refundable. If the stay is cancelled 60 days or more prior to arrival the deposit will be transferred to a credit note, less a \$150 administration fee per reservation. The credit note will be valid for 2 years from the date of cancellation. Full payment is due 60 days prior to arrival. All single night stays are non-refundable.

2. What is your cancellation policy?

All cancellations must be received in writing to info@skoki.com by the reservation holder and include the reservation confirmation number. Cancellations are not accepted by phone. If a reservation is cancelled less than 60 days prior to arrival the full amount is non-refundable. Changes to reservation dates are not permitted within 60 days of the arrival date. Skoki Lodge has no control or responsibility for the weather and reserves the right to cancel any stay at any time without notice. Safety in backcountry travel is important to the continued operation of Skoki Lodge and full refunds for your stay may be issued or deferred to a future alternate date. Our full cancellation policy can be viewed on our website at <https://www.skoki.com/rates/cancellation.php>

3. What level of hiker do I need to be?

The hike to Skoki Lodge is considered an intermediate level trail.

4. How long does it take to hike to Skoki Lodge?

Depending on your ability, 3-5 hours.

5. What is the highest elevation along the trail?

The highest point reached by the trail is at Deception Pass, at an elevation of 2485 m (8150 ft). The trailhead is at 2015 m (6610 ft), and Skoki Lodge lies at 2165 m (7103 ft). From the trailhead to Deception Pass, the trail rises 470 m (1541 ft) over 7.5 km (4.6 miles), and from Skoki Lodge to Deception Pass the trail rises 320 m (1050 ft) over 3.5 km (2.2 miles).

6. Is this a guided hike?

No, it is not a guided hike. Guests are responsible for arranging a guide to Skoki Lodge if desired.

7. Can packs be delivered to Skoki Lodge?

No, guests must hike their packs in and out.

8. Am I able to travel by horse to Skoki Lodge, and can my horse stay overnight?

Timberline Tours Ltd in Lake Louise can provide horse rentals for guided riding in the National Parks. Please note that horses cannot stay overnight at Skoki Lodge.

9. Can I ride my mountain bike on the trails?

Bikes are not permitted on trails in the Skoki Lodge area. In Banff National Park, mountain biking is permitted only on designated bike trails as specified by Parks Canada – see www.parksCanada.gc.ca for more information.



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10. Can I fish in the area?

A National Park fishing permit is required before you can fish in the park. An annual or a single day permit can be purchased at Parks Canada Information Centres or online. More information can be found on Parks Canada's website: www.parksCanada.gc.ca

Note: Not all rivers and streams are open for fishing; areas may be subject to closure. Again, check the Parks Canada website for more information.

11. Am I able to camp in the Skoki Lodge area?

Designated campsites are within hiking distance of Skoki Lodge. Parks Canada operates all campgrounds in Banff National Park, and campers must purchase a camping permit or register with Parks Canada – see www.parksCanada.gc.ca for more information.

12. What is the procedure if I miss the 9:00 am check in?

You will still have to check-in and sign a waiver. The only guaranteed shuttle departure from the Fish Creek parking lot is at 10:00AM. Late arrivals may have to hike the four kilometers from Fish Creek parking lot to the Skoki Lodge trailhead.

13. Are play pens/cribs available? What is the cost for children?

At the time of booking, please advise your reservation agent so a playpen/crib can be made available to you. Skoki Lodge was built in the 1930s, and is not sound-proofed. Out of consideration for all guests, children 2 years of age or younger are not permitted to stay in the Lodge - playpens/cribs are only permitted in Cabins. Children 5 and under stay for free. We do not have a high chair on site.

14. Will you be putting other people in my room with me?

No. Once you have reserved a room/cabin, only the guests in your party are booked into that room – no other guests will be assigned.

15. Are pets allowed at Skoki Lodge?

Pets are not allowed. Skoki Lodge is a shared space, and our remote location means that we must be mindful of potential allergies.

16. Am I permitted to smoke at Skoki Lodge?

Skoki Lodge and all cabins are designated as non-smoking areas.

17. Am I required to tip the staff?

Tips are not required, but are appreciated!

See you on the trail!