



# Winter

## Check In

### **Check-in is at 9:00 am at the Lake Louise Ski Resort.**

The Lake Louise Ski Resort 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 lower level of Whiskyjack lodge adjacent to the Group Sales desk.

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

After signing your waiver, the reservations agent will run you through the correct procedures for your journey out to Skoki Lodge, depending on your chosen equipment. The reservations agent will also issue you a Parking Pass to park in the Priority lot at the Lake Louise Ski Resort for the duration of your stay at Skoki Lodge.

**NOTE:** There is a limit of one Priority parking pass per room due to the limited capacity in the Priority parking lot. Any additional vehicles can be parked in the regular guest parking lots.

The Priority parking lot is located in parking lot 2, on the left-hand side, directly in front of the main lodges. The Priority parking lot is accessed from a dedicated entrance on Whitehorn road between the main entrance and the entrance to parking lot 3. From the parking lot, make your way down to the Grizzly Gondola. Please use the Priority / Snow School line; make your way to the loading area and wait for the lift attendant's instructions.

After unloading at the top of the gondola, carefully make your way directly to the Ptarmigan chair, located approximately 50 m (165 ft), directly in front of the Grizzly Gondola unload area. Once you arrive at the Ptarmigan lift unload area, please make yourself known to the lift operator and wait for their instructions.

**NOTE:** Guests using alpine touring equipment, telemark equipment, or splitboards may choose to use Pika run (#65) to make their way down to Temple Lodge. **All guests using cross country skis, light touring skis, or snowshoes must download on the Ptarmigan chair.**

From the base of Ptarmigan chair, turn left and carefully make your way up Pika run towards Temple Lodge approximately 100 m (330 ft) from the lift. Once at Temple Lodge, make your way directly uphill on the left-hand side of Marmot run (#143) approximately 100 m (330 ft) to the Skoki Lodge trail sign. The trail is located on the left-hand side, just above the first hump. Be sure you are in the correct location, and you see the historic sign post for Skoki Lodge.

## Skiing / Snowshoeing Directions

The ski / snowshoe 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 ski / snowshoe has a total elevation gain of 470 m (1541 ft) and will take you through spectacular subalpine terrain, over 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.



# Winter

## 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.
- 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 and hot soup are available every afternoon to welcome you back from your adventure.

**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.



# Winter

## 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.

## Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea is a service offered to day skiers and snowshoers in the area. Baked goods, hot drinks, and a selection of alcoholic beverages are available for purchase. Only cash or credit card are accepted.

Outdoor seating only.

## What to Bring

Weather in the backcountry is hard to predict, and can quickly change. If using waxable skis, it is recommended that you pack extra wax, a cork and a scraper. 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
- Down jacket and or additional warm midlayer pieces
- Windproof / waterproof jacket and pants
- Indoor shoes or slippers
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunblock lotion and lip protector
- First aid kit including blister repair and emergency tarps
- Headlamp
- Thermos and/or water bottle
- Personal toiletries
- Charging cables for your electronic devices

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



# Winter

## 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](mailto: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 skier do I need to be?

The trail to Skoki Lodge is considered an intermediate level trail and is not recommended for those with no ski or snowshoe experience.

### 4. How long does it take to ski / snowshoe to Skoki Lodge?

Depending on your ability, 3-5 hours.

### 5. Where can I rent skis or snowshoes?

The Lake Louise Ski Resort rents light touring skis chosen specifically for guest travelling to Skoki Lodge. The light touring rental package includes boots, skis, poles and climbing skis.

Alpine touring skis are available for rent at Wilson Mountain Sports in the village of Lake Louise as well as locations in Banff and Calgary.

We do not recommend cross country skis for travelling to Skoki Lodge.

### 6. What are the avalanche conditions?

The main trail to Skoki Lodge does not cross any avalanche paths and there are trails around Skoki Lodge that are not in avalanche terrain. Avalanche conditions can change frequently and unexpectedly. The Avalanche Canada avalanche bulletin is provided daily for guests. Information and updates be can also be found at [www.avalanche.ca](http://www.avalanche.ca). Lodge staff are not able to provide advice related to the current avalanche conditions.

### 7. 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).



# Winter

**8. Is this a guided ski / snowshoe?**

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

**9. Can packs be delivered to Skoki Lodge?**

No, guests must ski / snowshoe their packs in and out.

**10. Is the Trail to Skoki Lodge wide enough to pull a chariot/child's sled?**

While the trail is wide enough in most sections to pull a chariot or sled, it is not recommended. The trail consists of significant ascents, descents and cross-slope travel making travel with a chariot or sled very difficult, especially in fresh snow. Please let a reservations agent know if you plan on using a chariot or sled as additional arrangements may need to be made to get the chariot or sled to Temple Lodge.

**11. What is the procedure if I miss the 9:00 am check-in?**

You will still have to check-in and sign a waiver to receive your lift tickets. Since daylight is limited in winter, and conditions can change quickly, you may not be permitted to make the trip to Skoki Lodge if you check-in after 10:00 am. This decision will be at the discretion of management. Skoki Lodge is unable to assist guests who are injured or lost on the trail, so it is important that guests put their own safety first when considering a late check-in.

**12. 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.

**13. 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.

**14. 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.

**15. Am I permitted to smoke at Skoki Lodge?**

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

**16. Am I required to tip the staff?**

Tips are not required, but are appreciated!

*See you on the trail!*