

Trip Info and Sign Up

This brochure provides guidelines for our ski trips. To sign up for a Victoria Alpine Ski Club trip you must be a club member in good standing before the trip leaves.

The Ski Trips Schedule and details are published in our monthly newsletter "The Binding Release" and on the club's website at

<http://www.VictoriaSkiClub.org>



The Ski Trips Schedule shows the trip destination and dates, # of nights away, # of seats available, coordinator's name, the discounted early bird price and cut-off date, and the regular price. Full payment must be made at time of booking to reserve your spot. To qualify for the discounted early bird price you must sign up and make full payment by the early bird date.

Sign-Up Method – Sign-up sessions are scheduled during the ski season at the monthly club social starting in November. Club Night Socials are held the first Thursday of every month starting at 8:00pm upstairs in the Maple Room at the Sticky Wicket Pub, 919 Douglas Street, Victoria, where you can sign up for ski trips and get info about other activities. If you really can't make it to the social, alternate arrangements may be made for your payment and to reserve your spot *after* the social date.

Please be sure you have read and understand the club's Trip Cancellation Policy listed on the website before you sign up for a trip.

Getting There – The club usually charters a washroom-equipped motor coach with a professional driver. Some trips may have other methods of transportation such as car-pooling.

We meet at the far end of the parking lot at 4000 Seymour Place (off Cloverdale near Blanshard – refer to map) to check in and load our gear. The bus leaves promptly at its designated time. You **must** be on time or the bus will leave without you and no refund will be given. The parking fee is a nominal \$3.25 per calendar day and you will be provided with a parking permit.

You will be given a room-list and related info before boarding the bus. The bus trip is a fun and social event, and it's a great way to kick-start the trip. If this

is your first trip, it's a great opportunity to get acquainted with your roommates and the group.

Bring a beverage or two plus food to eat on the bus as we do not stop for dinner (unless specified). If we are taking the ferry, you can buy food on board.

Upon arrival at the mountain, the group forms a conga-line to efficiently unload and move all the gear from the bus into the building where you can then locate your bags.

Accommodations – The suites we rent usually have several bedrooms with bunks or queen beds. Couples typically take the master bedroom with a queen bed, and singles will be asked to share a bedroom with someone of the same gender (bring a sleeping bag if you wish and earplugs). If you don't want to share a bed, you can request the living room hide-a-bed instead. Check with the trip coordinator in advance for room and bed assignments or to request specific roommates. Towels and linen are usually provided with the room. Be sure to return your room-key on departure or a fee may be charged.



Lift Tickets – Lift tickets are not included in the trip cost, unless specified. Information regarding lift ticket deals is provided in our newsletter or via email. Whistler Mountain offers an Edge card, and Mt. Washington sells its 6ix-Pak Tickets online (and through Thrifty's for the month of November).

Check-Out Day and Return Home – Check-out time is generally 11:00am. You will need to move your bags to the designated check-out room before check-out time on departure day. If your room is the designated check-out room, ensure you pack up your things early. Please keep in mind that the entire group meets in this one room so space will be tight. You can go skiing but make sure you allow yourself enough time before departure to change and prepare for the trip home plus load your gear on the bus.



What to Bring

Food & Beverages – Most suites we rent have full kitchens with microwaves and dishwashers. Most people eat breakfast in their suite so don't forget to bring your tea/coffee, sugar, cereal, etc. Some people like to return to the room for lunch, while others buy lunch at a pub or cafeteria on the mountain.

We usually have a group potluck dinner one night so bring an item to share. The room-list handout will tell you where the potluck will be held. People usually bring snacks for après-ski in the suites. Most mountains sell food and liquor if you forget or need something but supplies may be limited.

Gear and Clothing – While there is room under the bus for your ski-gear and bags, it is recommended you pack light since space is limited. Please **put your skis in ski-bags and your boots in boot-bags** to protect your gear and make unloading and carrying much easier. Nametags should be on all your gear for clear identification to avoid lost or mistaken baggage.



If you don't own ski gear you can rent either in Victoria or on the mountain. Both Sports Traders and Sport Rent in Victoria offer a discount to club members (you'll need to show your membership card).

Mountain weather can be variable and unpredictable so beforehand, check the weather forecast website http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/canada_e.html and be prepared for anything. The layered approach is recommended with fleece for warmth and a windproof/waterproof outer layer (jacket + pants). We recommend a helmet for head protection. Bring a toque, goggles, sunscreen, sunglasses and ski-gloves and you're ready for the slopes! If you're snowboarding, consider wrist and elbow-pads. In addition to your ski gear, you'll need to pack food and beverages including something for the potluck, regular clothes and toiletries. Don't forget a bathing suit for the hot-tub and clothes for going dancing or to the pub in the evening.

Fun Highlights



- The bus ride is a social event. Expect lots of talking and often live music (and singing too) courtesy of our members. The front of the bus tends to be quieter.
- Once we arrive, unload and settle in our rooms, some continue socializing in one or more suites until people go to bed. Often a few members head down to the bar so ask around if you are interested in going. Please respect the other hotel guests by keeping your noise-level down.
- People often meet in the hot-tub after skiing the first day and before the potluck.
- Expect lots of food (including a few lasagnas) at the potluck.
- A group usually goes out to the pub or dancing in the evening.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get more information on the ski mountain?
Google it! Check the resort websites.

Should I rent gear on the mountain or in Victoria?

It saves time to rent in Victoria. However renting on the mountain is a good option if you want to try out or exchange skis.

How cold will it be on the mountain?

Mountain temperatures can range from +10 °C during spring to -25 °C in winter. Check the weather forecast and the mountain website. Be prepared for anything including windy and wet conditions.



Are there only downhill skiers in the club?

No, although we are mostly a group of downhill skiers, we welcome all snow enthusiasts including snowboarders, cross-country skiers and snowshoers.

Will I need goggles?

Yes, goggles and sunglasses are recommended.

What about a helmet?

We recommend wearing a helmet.

Will I need "winter boots" for walking around?

Not usually. Hiking boots or other boots with good tread will do unless you're planning on walking a lot in the snow.

Can I bring a cooler?

A cooler is not usually necessary. The suites we rent have fridges, and a trip to Mt. Washington or even Whistler is short enough for your food to remain cold in the bus storage compartment. You may wish to bring a frozen potluck item. Storage space on the bus is at a premium so please travel light.

Will the bus wait for me if I'm late?

No! It's up to you to be on time.

What if I have to cancel?

Please see the Trip Cancellation Policy for full details. In general, refunds will only be considered (but not guaranteed) at the end of the season and subject to a \$10 admin fee.

*What is my room number? Who are my roomies?
What are the sleeping arrangements?*

The Trip Coordinator will give you a room-list with this info on the bus prior to departure.

*What if I don't want to room with a certain person?
What if I do want to room with a buddy?*

Rooms are assigned in advance. Please discuss your rooming requests with the trip coordinator well in advance of the trip.

Things to Confirm Before the Trip

- Departure date and time
- Traveling by bus, car-pool or air? Luggage restrictions?
- Do the rooms have kitchen facilities? Is there a potluck or group après-ski?
- What are the expected weather conditions?

Ski Trips 101:

Everything You Need to Know About Victoria Alpine Ski Club Trips (but were afraid to ask)



Victoria, BC

Email: info@victoriaskiclub.org

Web: <http://www.VictoriaSkiClub.org>

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