
OnTop Mountaineering Ltd -

We offer trips/courses in mountaineering, hiking, rock and ice climbing and ski touring in Canada, Europe and Colorado.



340 Canyon Close – Canmore, AB, T1W 1H4 – Canada
Toll free: 1 800 506 7177

EQUIPMENT LIST: BACKCOUNTRY SKI TOURING WAPTA

1. Technical Equipment:

- Telemark or Alpine Touring skis*:
Only bring your telemark skis if you are at least an advanced/intermediate telemark skier with backcountry experience.
- Telemark or alpine touring boots*
- Collapsible ski poles*
- Climbing skins (stick-on) that fit your telemark or alpine touring skis*
- Avalanche transceiver (475 Megahertz)**
- Lightweight snow shovel**
- Avalanche probe**
- Large backpack (at least 50 liters) with rain cover. Some have built-in rain covers (eg. Deuter backpacks). Rain covers can also be bought separately.
Otherwise bring a big plastic (garbage) bag as an inside liner for your backpack.
- Climbing harness for glacier travel**
- One locking carabiner**
- Crevasse rescue equipment, if you are familiar with it.
(Prusik slings, webbing, pulleys, auto-locking device). Your guide will bring a full set.
- Ski crampons * (optional, but might make your live much easier in some of the steeper sections in spring)
- Repair kit for your skis (can be shared between 2 people)

All items marked with '*' can be rented from a rental shop locally.

All items marked with '' can be provided by OnTop Ltd. Please bring your own equipment if you have it.**

Any questions, please contact us:

phone: 1 (800) 506 7177 fax: 1 (403) 678 2717
email: info@ontopmountaineering.com

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2. Clothing

Temperatures in the Canadian Rockies vary hugely. Early season (December – February) temps can drop as low as –30C overnight, whereas in spring (mid-March – May) it can warm up to above freezing temps and overnight lows are not usually below –10C. The list is meant as a guide line, but we realize that our guests have their clothing priorities and substituting certain items with other equivalent pieces of clothing might be a valid alternative. If you do so, you should discuss it with your guide in the pre-trip briefing.

- Wind and waterproof shell jacket with hood (Gore Tex or similar)
- Wind and waterproof over pants (Gore Tex or similar)
- Warm pants (insulated / fleece/ polypro)
- Fleece or wool pullover or jacket
- Medium weight fleece shirt
- Capilene, fleece or wool underwear, top and bottoms
- 2 Pairs of gloves (lightweight and heavier weight)
- Scarf or neck gaiter
- Socks: thick (wool) outer and thinner liners
- Wool or fleece hat, covering the ears
- Gaiters (unless pants lock tightly to your boots or ski pants have integrated gaiters)
- Sun hat, preferably with wide rim
- Bandana (optional)

3. Hut lodging:

- Spare underwear, socks
- Down vest or light insulated jacket (optional)
- Light stuff sacs or zip lock bags to keep your backpack organized (optional)
- Sleeping bag and stuff sac (should be a "three-season sleeping bag").
Expect hut temperatures to be below freezing overnight.
- Ear plugs (Optional)
- Very light hut slippers / down booties (optional – socks or boot liners work too)
- Toiletries ((Keep to bare minimum – none of the huts has wash facilities or even water other than from melted snow)

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4. Other items:

- Sun Glasses (with very good UV protection, extra pair is a good idea), goggles
- Sun screen and lip protection
- Water bottle, preferably insulated, minimum volume: 1 liter or camelbak (if too cold, bladder tube might freeze up!)
- Head lamp with spare battery and bulb
- Blister kit (optional)
- Snacks (candy bars, dried fruit, sandwiches, nuts, etc.)
- Personal items (Prescription medicine, extra contact lenses and maintenance equipment, extra pair of prescription glasses etc.)
- Pocket knife or leatherman tool
- Passport
- (Health) insurance documents
- Zip-lock bag for wallet and documents to keep them dry (recommended)
- Camera, spare films, batteries (optional)
- Compass, maps and GPS (optional)
- Ski wax / skin wax (optional)

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