



Wilderness Ski Traverse Equipment List

Technical Equipment

Bring the following, or rent it (see 'Trip Info Links' at the bottom of the Wilderness Ski Traverse page):

- Alpine touring (or telemark*) skis and ski boots
- Collapsible, lightweight ski poles
- Climbing skins (stick-on), fitted to your skis
- Ski crampons (required for trips in March, April, and May)
- Large backpack (70 or more liters) with rain cover. You will also have to carry some food, fuel, and group gear.

*Only bring telemark skis if you are an advanced telemark skier with backcountry experience.

If you do not have one or more of the following items, you can rent them from the listed retailers or from OnTop. Please book in advance.

- Digital, 3-antenna avalanche transceiver
- Lightweight snow shovel
- Avalanche probe (two to three meters long)
- Harness for glacier travel
- One triple-action locking carabiner or two conventional locking carabiners

Bring the following:

- Crevasse rescue equipment, if you are familiar with it. (Prusik cords, webbing, pulleys, auto-locking device). Your guide will bring a full set
- Repair kit and Leatherman (can be shared between several people)
- Spare parts specific to your equipment

Clothing

Temperatures in the Western Canadian mountain ranges vary hugely. Between December and February, temperatures can be well below 0°C during the day and drop as low as -30°C overnight. Between March and May, it can be hot during the day with overnight lows not normally going below -10°C. Having several clothing layering options is important.

- Wind and waterproof shell jacket with hood (Gore-Tex or similar)
- Wind and waterproof over-pants (Gore-Tex or similar)
- Ski touring pants (eg. lined Schoeller fabric or similar)
- Thick fleece or wool pullover, or PrimaLoft jacket

- Medium weight fleece shirt
- Thin synthetic or wool underwear, top and bottoms
- Two pairs of gloves (lightweight and heavier weight)
- Scarf or neck gaiter (eg. Buff)
- Socks (synthetic or wool, thick outer and thin liners)
- Wool or fleece hat that covers your ears
- Gaiters that fit over your ski boot (unless pants seal tightly to your boots)
- Sun hat, preferably with a wide rim
- Bandana (optional)
- Spare underwear and socks
- Light down jacket or vest
- Three-season sleeping bag with stuff sack.
- Down booties
- Toiletries (keep to a bare minimum)

Other items

- Sunglasses with high UV protection and good side coverage
- Ski goggles with high UV protection
- Sunscreen and lip protection with high SPF
- One-liter water bottle with insulator. Water bladders not recommended.
- Small thermos (optional)
- Headlamp with fresh batteries
- Lunch and snacks (eg. sandwiches, candy bars, dried fruit, nuts, etc.)
- Personal first aid kit and other needs (eg. blister kit, prescription medicine, anti-inflammatory, contact lenses, prescription glasses, etc.)
- Pocket knife (optional)
- Health and travel insurance documents
- Ziploc bags and stuff sacks to keep important items dry and your pack organized
- Camera, spare batteries (optional)
- Compass, maps, GPS (optional)
- Ski wax / skin wax (optional)
- Hand sanitizer or sanitary hand wipes