

SKEENA

CAT SKIING AND BOARDING

COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for 2021/2022 Season

We are excited to welcome our guests for the 2021/2022 season!

On July 19th the Canadian Government announced that as of August 9th, fully vaccinated American citizens and permanent residents living in U.S. will be able to visit Canada without having to quarantine for two weeks. The Canadian Government said it also plans to allow fully vaccinated travellers from other countries to enter Canada without quarantine on September 7th. The Canadian Government has also stated unvaccinated Americans/foreigners will not be allowed into Canada “any time soon”.

All Skeena Cat Skiing 2021/2022 season guests and staff are required to provide our office with valid proof* of full COVID-19 vaccination via email in order to book or be added to a 2021/2022 season trip. This vaccination requirement is for ALL guests – Canadian, American, and international residents.

* **Valid proof of full vaccination** is considered a valid government issued vaccination card, government approved electronic vaccine passport app or portal showing the person has received both doses of vaccine.

How do I provide my proof of vaccine to Skeena?

Please email us a photo or screenshot of your proof of full COVID-19 vaccination at the time of booking.

International and American guests should visit the following link for a list of vaccines approved by the Canadian government in order to enter Canada without quarantine: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/awareness-resources/fully-vaccinated-travellers-covid-19.html>

If you intend to become fully vaccinated before winter, but are unable to get your vaccinations before booking your trip with us, please contact us to discuss.

Why is full vaccination required at Skeena?

Skeena Cat Skiing is a small backcountry base camp area and snowcat environment which does not allow for social distancing – particularly in helicopters, snow cats, shared accommodations, first aid scenarios, etc... With 30+ guests and staff arriving from all over the world every 3 -4 days, there is a significant risk of transmission in such close quarters, even when accompanied by our COVID Safety Plan protocols. A case of COVID-19 in the base camp would have serious consequences for all exposed and would also require a 10–14-day mandatory closure of our operation, resulting in cancelling all trips scheduled during a closure.

In order for us to provide the highest level of risk mitigation against COVID-19 at our base camp, we will be implementing a mandatory vaccine policy for all staff and guests as one of our multiple layers of COVID-19 prevention protocols.

What other COVID-19 safety precautions will be in place during my trip?

We know that vaccination is the most important layer of protection against COVID-19. Due to the changing nature of this pandemic, we will not be finalizing our COVID Safety Plan until November. This plan will reflect the BC and Canadian government guidelines and the state of the pandemic at that time. This plan may also include requiring you to have a negative COVID test immediately prior to your ski holiday

Please note that although these policies and protocols are highly effective tools in preventing the spread of COVID-19, it is not possible for us to remove all risk factors of COVID-19 transmission at the basecamp. Therefore, guests should be aware that there is still an element of personal risk taken when attending your trip with us.

What if I am not able or choose not to get vaccinated for COVID-19?

Those who are not able to get vaccinated due to medical reasons, or who choose not to get vaccinated, **will not be able to attend their trip with Skeena Cat Skiing this season.**

How will Skeena Cat Skiing store my proof of vaccination?

Once we have received your proof of vaccination, Skeena Cat Skiing will make note in our reservation system (Proof of Vaccination YES/NO), and then delete the email with documentation. No personal medical information will be stored or saved.

I still have questions, who can I talk to?

Nothing with COVID is simple. If you have any questions about this policy, or about attending your trip with us this winter, please contact us at inquiries@skeenacatskiing.ca or 1(250) 847-5249.

We look forward to welcoming you all to the base camp for a safe, healthy, and snowy season together!

Sincerely,

Nick & Ali Holms-Smith, Owners
Gary Mathiesen, Owner
Jevon Zyp, Owner

