



GUEST INFORMATION BOOKLET

Thank you for choosing Skeena Cat Skiing for your winter backcountry adventure!

This guide has been created to help you prepare for your epic adventure! It is packed with information about Skeena Cat Skiing, what to expect on your tour with us and how to make the best of your winter adventure!

Our goal at Skeena Cat Skiing is to provide you with as much skiing/boarding in untracked pow and a chance at first tracks and first descents!

For more great content, check out our [website](#).

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ABOUT SKEENA CAT SKIING

LOCATION/TERRAIN

The Skeena Mountains are located on the southern end of the Mount Thomlinson Range which is known as a crazy pacific snow belt and provides a unique blend of wide-open alpine bowls and naturally gladed treed runs.

With approximately 30,000 hectares we have one of the largest cat skiing operations in BC. We have one third of the terrain currently accessed, but this upcoming winter we plan to open more terrain and add new cat roads – so more runs than we have offered in the past!

At Skeena, our ski season starts in January, and we keep skiing right through until the end of March. January and early February are statistically the coldest and often the snowiest months of the winter. This is a formula for deep, super-dry snow conditions. In late March, winter and spring weather collides, and we get into a stormy, unsettled weather pattern which results in lots of fresh dumps of snow with short, clear periods in between. There is the possibility of warmer temperatures and spring-like snow conditions later in the season, however, this is not the norm.

BASE CAMP

Skeena Cat Skiing Base Camp is perfectly situated at 1200 meters in the treed alpine for the best mountainous views including spectacular northern lights. Check our [website](#) to see photos of Base Camp.



SCS Base Camp in the daytime.

Our main lodge is large and contains the dining room, bar, lounging areas and our commercial kitchen. With a propane furnace (newly installed during the summer of 2024) and upgraded wood stove, it provides a warm, cozy atmosphere in which to socialize, relax and sate your appetite after a full day on the slopes.

We have outstanding chefs who prepare exceptional gourmet dinners using premium local ingredients. To complement the cuisine, our fully licensed lounge serves a curated selection of British Columbia wines—we have about 20 choices on our wine list! We provide a selection of hot and cold breakfasts. Lunches are laid out by the chefs in the morning for you to prepare your favourite sandwiches and salads and includes a variety of tasty snacks. For après ski there are always delicious appetizers prepared to tide you over until dinner is served.



SCS Main Lodge



SCS Base Camp at night.

Guest accommodations are heated, double occupancy, insulated Quonset hut with comfy mattresses, warm linens, electrical outlet, bedside table, coat hooks and a porta-potty (upon request). Not to be confused with your basic backcountry tent, these accommodations are warm, comfortable, and adjacent to the main lodge and shower house. The shower house is a wood framed, heated building with shower stalls, sinks and flush toilets. It was recently upgraded over the summer of 2024. We supply towels,

shampoo, conditioner and soap. A warm drying hut is available for you to hang boots and any other damp or wet gear after a day of skiing or snowboarding. We recently added a Sauna, the perfect spot to warm up, relax and rejuvenate after carving up the slopes.

RESERVATIONS AND BOOKING

BOOKING A TRIP

At Skeena Cat Skiing we offer 3-day and 4-day ski-trips from January through March. Please check availability on our website and click on “inquire now” for the desired trip and complete the booking request form. Should you have any questions please contact us at inquiries@skeenacatskiing.ca or call 1 (250) 877-5249.

You'll receive a confirmation email with a link to our guest registration form, along with billing details, terms and conditions, liability waiver, and trip information. Once you submit the form, we'll send your invoice. A 25% deposit secures your booking; trips booked after September 30 must be paid in full.



GUEST REGISTRATION

Guest Registration is online through our website. Once you have confirmed booking dates you will get a link via email to our on-line registration form. Complete your registration details including emergency contact, dietary requirements, and medical information.

All Skeena guests must complete the registration form. Group organizers should ensure that all guests in your group receive, complete and submit the registration form <https://skeenacatskiing.ca/registration-page/>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION COVERAGE

Skeena Cat Skiing provides mandatory emergency evacuation coverage to cover the costs if, in the event of a serious injury, you need to be evacuated from the mountain by helicopter, snowcat and/or snowmobile to the nearest hospital which offers the care facilities required. The cost of the Evacuation Coverage is \$5.00/day per person. This coverage is automatically added to all members of a booking on your invoice.

In the case of an evacuation, no refunds or credits will be given for the unused portion of your trip.

HELICAT FUTURES FUND

Skeena Cat Skiing participates Helicat Futures Fund which is administered by HeliCat Canada to raise awareness and promote industry improvement through research, education and advocacy. The fee is \$5.00/day per person.

PAYMENT

Prior to processing payment ALL guests are required to have read, understood, and agreed to Skeena Cat Skiing's [Release of Liability Waiver](#) and [Terms and Conditions](#).

Full payment for your booking is due September 30th of every year. Trips booked after September 30th are payable in full at the time of booking.

Payments options include:

1. **Flywire:** Online payment by credit card or bank transfer can be done by clicking the blue 'Pay with Flywire' button on your invoice to follow the link, entering your information and choosing your payment method (Online Banking, Bank Transfer or Credit Card). Not only is paying through Flywire convenient, but they are a leading provider of Global Payment Solutions. So, for those of you that live outside of Canada, you can pay by either bank transfer or by credit card in your home currency with good exchange rates for most guests.
2. **Email Transfer:** You can send an e-mail transfer from Canadian banks to: inquiries@skeenacatskiing.ca
3. **Bank Wire:** Email inquiries@skeenacatskiing.ca for the banking information.
4. **Snail Mail:** Mail a cheque by to: Skeena Cat Skiing Inc. 1181 Main St., PO BOX 492, Smithers BC V05 2N0
Please identify all payments clearly with your name and address and reference your invoice number. Payments in US funds will be credited to your account at the current bank rate. Please be aware that the Canadian mail is notoriously slow and mail from the US can take as long as three weeks to arrive.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions for more details regarding payments.

LAST MINUTE DISCOUNT BOOKINGS

Stand-by rates at discounted prices may become available throughout the season, due to last minute cancellations. Please email us at inquiries@skeenacatskiing.ca to be added to our last-minute list.

REBOOKING POLICY

This season's 2026 guests receive a 25% discount off of 2027 prices and first choice of available dates for the 2027 season. This option expires on the last day of your ski adventure. To reserve your dates, we need to receive your deposit on the last day of your trip this season. The deposit is 25% of the total package price. We cannot hold dates for our guests without a deposit. Full-cat groups must pay the group's full deposit amount in one lump sum, unless arranged otherwise.

GROUP BOOKINGS

Book a full cat of 12 and get one seat for free! In exchange for this benefit, a group leader must be assigned as the main point of contact and accept the following responsibilities listed below.

Group leaders must book the entire cat at one time and make the 25% deposit payment. The balance is due no later than September 30th. Bookings made after October 1st are due within 7 days of booking. The group leader is responsible to collect funds from the group members.



- As the group leader, you agree to provide each of your group members with the details regarding our booking policies, [Release of Liability Waiver](#) and our [Terms and Conditions](#), and any trip updates sent out by Skeena Cat Skiing prior to your trip.
- Prior to processing payment ALL confirmed guests are required to have read, understood, and agreed to Skeena Cat Skiing's release of liability waiver.
- Skeena Cat Skiing reserves the right to charge a late fee of 1% each month or to cancel any unpaid bookings.
- Group leaders must provide Skeena Cat Skiing with both a group list (including names and email addresses), and a room assignment list. Groups of twelve will have six double rooms. Notify us immediately by e-mail of any changes or additions to the group.
- Group leaders must ensure every group member completes their registration form via our online guest registration site.

- Group leaders are responsible for filling any cancellations in the group or our cancellation policy will apply.
- Your first option to book the same dates for the following year expires on the last day of your ski adventure. No dates will be held without a deposit.
- Group leaders who wish to rebook their group for the following season must do so with the 25% deposit on their final ski day.
- Personal Base Camp expenses can be paid by individual group members.

EXPENSES AT BASE CAMP

While you are at Base Camp, each guest will run a tab for rental skis, liquor, merchandise, and the deposit for re-booking for the following season. This tab will be paid the last morning before you go skiing. At Base Camp we accept cash, cheques, debit, VISA or MasterCard.

RESERVATION CANCELLATIONS

All bookings are non-refundable. We strongly encourage all guests purchase trip cancellation insurance in case of any travel interruptions. You may transfer your seat to another guest without a fee.

If you cancel your reservation the cancellation fee is \$400 + GST. If we are able to fill the seat at full price, all monies paid, less the cancellation fee, will be refunded. If we fill the seat at a reduced rate, you will be refunded only the amount paid by the replacement guest, less the cancellation fee. If the seat cannot be filled, then no money will be refunded or ski credits given.



SCS Terrain: Silicon Valley, Photo Mel Macpherson

If you are unable to come at the last minute due to injury, travel complications, inability to enter the country, etc. there will be **no refunds or ski credits** given unless we are able to resell the seat, as described above.

Please purchase cancellation insurance.

The reservation and cancellation policies used by Skeena Cat Skiing are standard in the industry.

CANCELLATION INSURANCE

We strongly encourage all guests to purchase travel and cancellation insurance immediately after your deposit payment has been made, to cover you for any unforeseen changes to your travel plans. Please keep in mind, many policies require you purchase insurance within a certain timeframe of making your first trip payment. Skeena Cat Skiing does not sell trip cancellation insurance or recommend a specific insurance provider.

REFUND POLICY

There is no guarantee on the weather conditions that you will encounter on your ski adventure – and we give no refunds, or rain checks if we are unable to ski due to poor conditions or if you cannot or do not want to ski for any reason.

A snowcat can operate in virtually any type of snow and weather. If, in the very unlikely event we cannot operate our snowcat for an extended period, we will provide a skiing credit on the unused portion of the ski package. This credit does not carry any cash value and is valid only until the end of the following ski season. Under no circumstances is Skeena Cat Skiing responsible for guests' inconvenience or travel expenses.



SCS Terrain, Photo Mel Macpherson



Skier Jevon Zyp, Photo Powder Matt

Please keep in mind that although our mountains are an excellent location for great winter weather suitable for powder skiing, it is always possible that conditions during your ski trip may disappoint you. As we have no control over the weather, we cannot give refunds due to poor conditions. Some backcountry operators will cancel when conditions are not good. At Skeena we can typically still go skiing even in these conditions. Our guides are knowledgeable and can usually find suitable runs, less affected by the weather.

PLANNING YOUR TRIP

YOUR TRIP STARTS HERE – GETTING TO THE SUSKWA LODGE

Skeena Cat Skiing trips begin at the Suskwa Lodge located in New Hazelton, BC. Guests are flown by helicopter into **Skeena Base Camp** from the **Suskwa Lodge** the afternoon before their first ski day.



Location of Skeena Cat Skiing Base Camp, Suskwa Lodge, Smithers & Terrace.

Guests flying to the area for their trip with Skeena should fly into either Smithers, BC or Terrace, BC. While Smithers is closer and offers a shorter drive to Suskwa Lodge, Terrace has more daily flights. Both locations have direct flights from Vancouver, BC with a flight time of approximately 1.5 hours. For flight options visit:

<https://www.aircanada.com>
www.westjet.com

Please bring your boots as carry-on. Should they get lost, we do NOT rent boots.

It is essential that guests arrive at the Suskwa Lodge (our helicopter staging area) in the early afternoon on their transfer day. Exact time will be provided well in advance of the trip. Guests are responsible to make their own transportation arrangements to the Suskwa Lodge as well as any necessary overnight accommodations. Information on transportation and accommodation options for both Smithers and Terrace is provided below. Skeena Cat Skiing is happy to facilitate arrangements for guests wishing to “carpool” with other guests.

Arrival at Base Camp is the day BEFORE your first ski day and departure is after skiing on the last ski day.

The **helicopter transfer is not included** in the ski-trip price. The cost is **\$225 per person, each way** and will be invoiced before your trip. If the helicopter is unable to fly and you are transferred into and/or out of Base Camp via ground transfer, you will be refunded the applicable helicopter cost.

THE SMITHERS OPTION

Smithers is the ideal choice for those who want to enhance their Skeena Cat Skiing adventure with local resort skiing at Hudson Bay Mountain (Skeena guests receive a 50% discount on lift tickets) and/or ski touring at Hankin Evelyn. See EXTENDING YOUR TRIP section.

Since there is only one scheduled morning flight to Smithers, guests choosing this option are encouraged to arrive in Smithers two days before their first ski day (which is the day before their transfer to Skeena Base Camp). This allows for potential flight delays due to limited winter service with Air Canada and for guests to take advantage of a warm-up ski at Hudson Bay Mountain, or enjoy the quaintness of Smithers. Please note, it is the guest's responsibility to ensure they arrive at Suskwa Lodge on time for their helicopter transfer to Base Camp.

Helicopter departure times are set prior to the season, and guests will be notified via email. Helicopter departures generally occur between 2-3 PM in January and early February, and between 3-4 PM in late February and March.

Guests must arrive at Suskwa Lodge at least 30 minutes before their scheduled helicopter departure for orientation and waiver signing.

The helicopter transfer from the Suskwa Lodge to Base Camp operates on a strict schedule; the helicopter will not wait, and we do not provide refunds for missed transfers.



Main Street, Smithers, BC

Directions to Suskwa Lodge from Smithers (approx. 45 min drive*)

- Head northwest on highway 16 W
- Continue driving northwest on highway 16 for 56km
- You will see a SKEENA CAT SKIING Sign along the highway
- Turn right onto the Suskwa Forest Service Road and drive for 5 kms, follow the Skeena Cat Skiing signage
- Turn right at the “phone booth” following the Skeena Cat Skiing Signs. Follow this road, the Suskwa-Moricietown Forest Service Road, for 1 km
- Turn Left at the first driveway you see
- Continue down the driveway and keep LEFT- park in the lower parking lot where you see vehicles and walk over to the Office Trailer in the lower field

*These are estimates for good weather, winter road conditions may cause significant delays.

ACCOMMODATIONS IN SMITHERS:

Overnight reservations are recommended for at least the night before entering Skeena Base Camp and the night after departing camp. A variety of hotels and motels are available in Smithers, with some offering discounts through the Ski and Stay program: <https://skiandstay.ca>

Aspen Inn

Phone: 1-250-847-4551 web: <http://www.aspeninnsmithers.com>

Bulkley Suites

Phone: 1-250-847-5366 web: www.bulkleyrentalsuites.com

Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge

Phone: 1-250-847-4581 web: <https://www.bestwestern.com/>

Sandman Inn

Phone: 1-250-847-2637 web: <https://www.sandmanhotels.com/>

Sunshine Inn

Phone: 1-250-847-6668 web: <https://sunshineinn.ca>

Stork Nest Inn

Phone: 1-250-847-3831 web: <https://www.storknestinn.com>

Fireweed Motel

Phone: 1-250-847-2208 web: <http://www.fireweedmotel.com>

TRANSPORTATION IN SMITHERS:

With a population of approximately 5,500, Smithers has limited taxi services and does not offer Uber, so planning ahead is essential. Arrange transportation well in advance, particularly for large groups.

Rental Vehicle Options:

National: 1-250-847-2216

Frontier Truck Rentals: 1-778-640-1405 after hours phone number: 1-250-876-8149

Taxi Services in Smithers:

Kalum Kabs: (250) 877 7167 email: smithers@kalumkabs.org

Kalum Kabs can provide local taxi services as well as Suskwa Lodge transfers.

Shuttle Service by Van/Bus:

TBA.

THE TERRACE OPTION

With a greater number of daily flights, Terrace is the better option for guests with less time flexibility. Terrace is just under a 2-hour drive to the Suskwa Lodge, our helicopter staging area. Please do not schedule travel on a tight schedule as **guests are responsible to get themselves to the Suskwa Lodge in time for their helicopter transfer to Base Camp.**

Helicopter departure times are determined prior to the season and guests will be advised via email. As a guide, January/early February departure times are between 2-3pm and late February/March between 3-4pm. Guests must plan accordingly, **arriving to Suskwa Lodge at least a half hour before their scheduled departure time** for orientation and waiver signing prior to their helicopter departure.

The helicopter transfer from the Suskwa Lodge to Base Camp operates on a strict schedule; the helicopter will not wait, and we do not provide refunds for missed transfers.

Directions to Suskwa Lodge from Terrace (approx. 2 hrs drive*)

- Head east on highway 16 E
- Continue driving northeast for 145km
- You will see a SKEENA CAT SKIING Sign along the highway
- Turn Left onto the Suskwa Forest Service Road and drive for 5 kms, follow the Skeena Cat Skiing signage
- Turn right at the “phone booth” following the Skeena Cat Skiing Signs. Follow this road, the Suskwa-Moricietown Forest Service Road, for 1 km
- Turn Left at the first driveway you see
- Continue down the driveway and keep LEFT- park in the lower parking lot where you see vehicles and walk over to the Office Trailer in the lower field

*These are estimates for good weather, winter road conditions may cause significant delays.

ACCOMMODATIONS IN TERRACE:

Terrace Tourism program has many recommendations for accommodation in Terrace:

<https://www.visitterrace.com/stay/hotels-motels/>

TRANSPORTATION IN TERRACE:**Taxi & Shuttle Services:**

Taxi: Kalum Kabs Ltd. – Terrace (250) 635-7177

Rental Vehicle Options:

Enterprise Rent-A-Car – 250-635-6855 - www.enterprise.ca

Budget Rent-A-Car – 250-638-0288 - www.budget.ca

Hertz Canada Limited – 250-635-6866 - www.hertz.ca

Driving Force - 250-635-9559 - www.drivingforce.ca

(Skeena guests get a 10% discount with Driving Force.)



Looking toward Base Camp, Photo Jen Zyp

PACKING TIPS

- Each guest will have a weight limit of 35 lbs for the helicopter; therefore, you must pack light.
- Pack in a soft duffle style bag, hard suitcases are not permitted.
- **Ski/snowboard BOOTS are included** in this weight, but skis/snowboards are not.
- Boots should be packed in a bag; loose boots can get wet during the heli transfer.
- There is storage available at the Suskwa Lodge in cases where guests have excess luggage.
- Don't pack booze. It will be counted in your weight restriction, and we have a well-stocked bar.
- When travelling by plane **bring your boots as carry-on.** We don't rent boots, so you'll be stuck if yours get misplaced by the airline.
- Check out our FAQ section for a complete packing list.

TRIP SCHEDULE

Be sure to make your travel arrangements to accommodate arriving at the Suskwa Lodge by early afternoon on the day before your first ski day for your helicopter transfer into Skeena Base Camp. The above section on PLANNING YOUR TRIP, outlines the options for flying into either Smithers or Terrace, BC.

Guests who fly into Smithers may opt to ski in the morning at Hudson Bay Mountain where Skeena guests get a 50% discount on lift tickets. Check HBM calendar for operating schedule www.hudsonbaymountain.ca

MEET AND TRANSPORT TO BASE CAMP

Guests will be advised in advance of the details for their helicopter departure time from the Suskwa Lodge. Reminder that guests are transferred into Base Camp **the day before their first cat ski day. Ensure you arrive at the Suskwa Lodge at least 30 minutes prior to the helicopter departure time.** We ask guests to please refrain from excessive drinking prior to your transfer to Base Camp. Upon arrival at the Suskwa Lodge you will be directed on where to take your skis/snowboard and luggage. You will watch the Helicopter Safety video, Skeena Safety video, and sign the helicopter waiver.

A staff member will call you out to the Landing Zone when it is time for your flight. For the flight, you must be dressed in warm winter clothes and waterproof, winter boots.



Aberdeen Helicopters, photo source website

If bad weather prevents the helicopter from flying, you will be transferred into Base Camp via bus and snowcat. **If the helicopter will not be flying, you will be advised via email the morning of your transfer day with details for the alternate transfer.** There is no additional cost for going to Base Camp by bus/snowcat therefore, if the helicopter is unable to fly and you are transferred into and/or out via ground transfer, you will be refunded the applicable helicopter cost.

Upon arrival at Base Camp, you will be directed to the main lodge where there will be refreshments and a briefing on operations and daily logistics, and you will be assigned your room. Rental skis, as applicable, will be arranged. Dinner will be ready at 7:00pm.

Prior to skiing on your first day, all guests are required to sign a Waiver, Release from Liability and Assumption of Risks. A copy of the waiver can be found in this booklet or downloaded from our website [here](#). Please make sure to read through it prior to your arrival at Base Camp. You will be required to sign a copy, witnessed by one of our staff.

On your first ski day, you will receive a safety briefing and training session followed by an avalanche transceiver search practice. We will also discuss safety in and around the snowcat.



Northern Lights at Base Camp, Photo Mel Macpherson

DAILY SCHEDULE

- Breakfast is served at 8:00am
- First Day of skiing there will be an approximately 1-hour safety and transceiver lesson prior to skiing
- Other days all guests are loaded into the cats with gear, lunches and backpacks by 9:00am and will ski to 1 hour before sunset (3:30 to 4:00pm)
- Hors d'oeuvres served upon guests' arrival back at base camp
- Dinner is served between 6:30 and 7:00pm

FINAL DAY

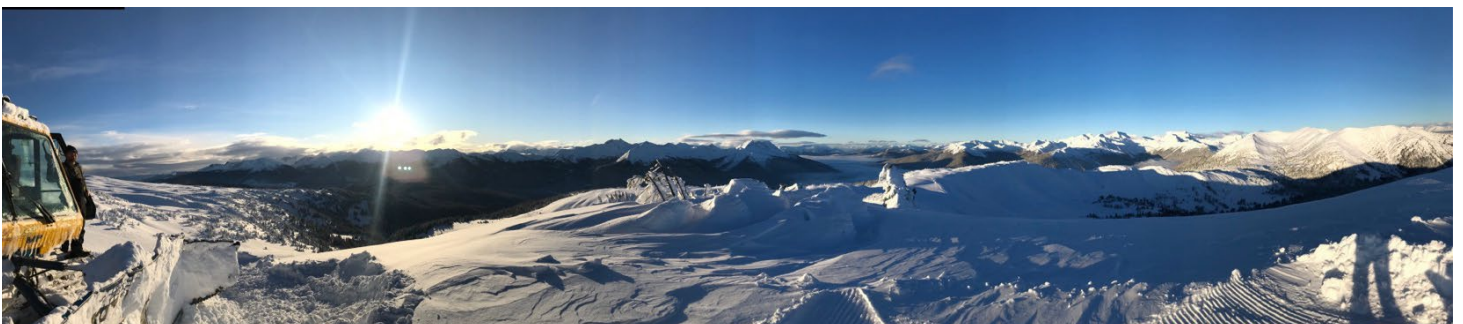
- Guests, please pack your gear and bring to the main lodge before departing for skiing
- Breakfast is served at 8:00am
- Cat Skiing 9:00am to 2:30 (ish) depending on daylight and weather

EXTENDING YOUR TRIP

Many guests decide to make Skeena Cat Skiing part of a longer ski holiday. Below are a few great options for skiing before or after cat skiing with us. Further information can be found through <https://skiandstay.ca>

HUDSON BAY MOUNTAIN

Hudson Bay Mountain is Smithers' local ski hill and is affiliated with Skeena Cat Skiing. It is well known in the north for diverse ski runs, longer seasons, great snow conditions and amazing staff. Skeena guests get a 50% discount on HBM lift tickets. Check out open hours on their website www.hudsonbaymountain.ca



Looking toward Base Camp, Photo Jen Žyp

HANKIN-EVELYN RECREATION AREA

Maintained by the Bulkley Backcountry Ski Society, the Hankin-Evelyn Recreation area is a one of a kind no-lifts ski resort. With thirteen cut runs and alpine bowls, the terrain options make it an excellent destination for both beginner and expert backcountry skiers alike. There is no charge to ski at the Hankin-Evelyn Trails.

SHAMES MOUNTAIN CO-OP

Shames Mountain is located near Terrace, BC so an option for guests who choose to fly in and out of Terrace. Note the 1hour 45-minute drive to Suskwa Lodge and allow enough time to arrive before your designated meeting time. Shames mountain offers an excellent mix of terrain featuring groomed or gnarly and steep. For more information visit their website www.mymountaincoop.ca or call 250-635-3773.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW GOOD A SKIER/BOARDER SHOULD I BE?

For skiers, guests must be, at minimum, a strong intermediate level capable of dealing with deep powder snow in the backcountry. Less skilled or less fit guests may be asked to sit out some of the steeper runs and/or take some rest breaks by riding down in the snowcat with the driver.

Snowboarders and telemark skiers MUST be experts and able to handle all backcountry conditions including narrow traverses and steep treed terrain. There may be times when traversing, and even climbing uphill, will be necessary. Collapsible poles that can be stored in a small pack are recommended for snowboarders. We do not provide snowboard/split board rentals.

HOW MANY RUNS DO WE SKI PER DAY?

We normally ski 10 to 15 runs per day and typically ski between 12,000 and 15,000 vertical feet per day. Well-planned snow roads maximize the number of ski runs per day and minimize wait times.

WHAT PART OF THE WINTER HAS THE BEST SKIING?

We receive nearly the same amount of snow during all the winter months of December to March. January and February are the coldest periods. March is snowy and unsettled with longer daylight hours – meaning long days of great skiing.

In December you can expect the daytime temperatures to be in the -5 to -15 Celsius range (5 to 23 degrees Fahrenheit); in January and February you can expect -10 to -20 Celsius (-4 to 14 degrees Fahrenheit); and March you can expect 0 to -10 Celsius (14 to 32 degrees Fahrenheit).

However, prior to mid-February we can potentially get brief periods of very cold arctic air with temperatures in the range of -20 to -30 Celsius (-4 to -22 degrees Fahrenheit).

Please accept the fact that we cannot control the weather, and no refunds or rain checks will be given for bad weather or snow conditions.

WHAT IS THE PERCENTAGE OF ALPINE VS TREE SKIING?

Skeena Tenure terrain consists of wide-open alpine bowls and beautifully naturally gladed tree runs with a large variety of slope. If the weather is clear and the visibility is good, we are almost always at tree line and above in the alpine. If it is snowing and cloudy, we usually drop-off at tree line and ski down through the forest. Over a whole season we typically would ski half the time in the alpine, and half in the trees.



WHAT IS THE ACCOMMODATION LIKE?

Skeena Cat Skiing Base Camp is warm and cozy, located way up in the mountains. The large main lodge, where dining and lounging happens, has a propane furnace and upgraded wood-burning stove that gives its atmosphere the perfect touch.

Guest bedrooms are heated, double occupancy, insulated Quonset huts. There are a limited number of single occupancy huts prioritized for solo travellers.

The high elevation of Base Camp (1200m) offers spectacular views from pretty much everywhere in camp and often the northern lights come out to dance!

The shower house is a wood-framed, heated building with shower stalls, sinks and flush toilets. It has been newly upgraded.



Guest Quonset hut Interior

AND THE FOOD?

Skeena Cat Skiing is very fortunate to have outstanding chefs who prepare exceptional gourmet dinners each evening. We use premium local ingredients like wild B.C. salmon, halibut and organically raised lamb, chicken, and beef.

To complement the cuisine, our fully licensed lounge serves a good selection of award-winning British Columbia wines—we have about 20 choices on our wine list!



In the morning, we serve a selection of hot and cold breakfasts. Lunches are laid out by the chef in the morning for you to customize your own sandwiches and salads along with a variety of tasty snacks. To allow more time for skiing, lunch is eaten in the snowcat between runs.

For après ski there are always delicious appetizers to tide you over until dinner is served.

WHAT IF I HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS?

Our chefs can accommodate any special dietary requirements or food allergies. Please be sure to list any of your special dietary needs when you complete your online guest registration form at least 4 weeks prior to your trip, and we will ensure that we have your requirements addressed. Last minute requests may not be met, due to our remote location.

DOES THE CAMP HAVE INTERNET ACCESS OR CELL PHONE COVERAGE?

Skeena Cat Skiing Base Camp has a wireless internet router to cover the main lodge area. We recommend that you leave your work at home and enjoy your adventure, but if you do need to stay in touch you will be able to connect to the outside world with your personal device. We do not have computers available for guests to use. Please know that the wireless internet at the lodge is slower than you are likely used to in civilization.

There is no cell phone coverage at Base Camp. We strongly encourage guests to reserve their device time for after dinner to allow for time to connect with your group and guides.



SCS Terrain: Witches Tits, Photo Mel Macpherson

CAN I BRING MY OWN BOOZE?

Our fully licensed lounge serves a variety of beers and a full range of spirits. We also stock a wide variety of award-winning British Columbian wines. Please do not bring beer with you as it is heavy and often breaks on the trip up (usually on someone else's luggage!). We recommend guests do not bring in their own liquor, but if you do you will be charged a corkage fee of \$30.00 per bottle of wine and \$40.00 per bottle of spirits. Please also keep in mind that you can only bring a total 35 lbs of luggage on the helicopter and any booze you bring is included in this weight (and we are fully stocked, so you don't need to waste the weight!). Furthermore, we do not mark up our booze to ridiculous prices – meaning, don't bring your own booze – drink ours.

WHAT ABOUT SKI RENTALS?

We have a large selection of powder skis from Armada, Kastle and Salomon. Our selection of powder skis range in length from 165 cm up to 190 cm. We do not rent snowboards or split boards.

Rental skis are available for guests at a cost of \$40/day. Poles are available for everyone free of charge – so **whether you are renting or not, do not bring ski poles. Bring your own ski boots and take them as carry-on luggage if you travel by plane. Please make sure ski boots are in a bag of some sort.** Loose boots can get wet on the trip up to Base Camp. There is no need to book rental skis ahead of time. Upon your arrival at the lodge, you may fill out a rental form and come to the ski room to discuss what type of skis you will use.

WHAT OTHER AMENITIES ARE AT CAMP?

We have a sauna to help warm your tired muscles after a long day on the slopes.



Rider Jevon Zyp, Photo Karla Charlton

WHAT OTHER AMENITIES ARE AT CAMP?

Our lodge has a mini-retail shop containing variety of Skeena Cat Skiing swag

IF I HAVE TOURING BOOTS, CAN I STILL RENT SKIS?

Yes, however ski selection may be limited. Check with Skeena before travelling.

HOW MUCH LUGGAGE CAN I BRING?

You **MUST** pack light:

- For the helicopter there is a **35 lb weight limit** per guest.
- Weight limit **includes ski/snowboard boots**, but NOT Skis/boards.
- Use a soft duffel style bag (**stiff or hard case bags are not permitted**) for it to pack easily into the helicopter. A medium or large duffel, half filled, is ideal since it can be flexible when loading.
- Ski/snowboard boots can be in a separate bag, **but not loose** or they risk getting wet. Remember they are included in the 35 lb weight limit.
- **Bring only one set of skis OR snowboard loose – NOT in a ski bag (these are NOT included in your 35 lb limit).**
- Do NOT bring ski poles, these will be supplied free of charge to all guests.
- Please weigh your luggage at home. Bags over the 35 lb weight limit may need to be reduced and you may be asked to repack and leave some gear behind in your vehicle or in the Suskwa Lodge storage.
- Any booze must be in your luggage and will be included in your 35 lb limit. (but you don't need to bring booze - we are well stocked!)



WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

- A water bottle
- Helmet and ski clothes that are suitable for all conditions and temperatures. Extra gloves and goggles recommended
- Casual clothes and **slippers** for the lodge
- Please be wearing waterproof winter boots for the trip up to Skeena Base Camp.
- Flashlight (headlamp is best)
- Sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses
- Bathing suit for the sauna
- **Ski/Snowboard Boots** – we recommend that you take them on the airplane with you as carry-on luggage. Do not carry them loose—make sure they are in a boot bag.
- Powder skis/board if you own them, remember you are welcome to rent skis from us. We do not rent boards or split-boards. Ski poles are provided for all guests.
- If you have your skis/board in a ski-bag, upon arrival you should pull them out for the helicopter trip to Base Camp.
- All guests are provided with an avalanche transceiver, an avalanche airbag pack with a shovel and probe, as well as a radio, so there is no need to bring your own pack.
- Gravel (if needed)

- Bring maximum 35lbs. of luggage – no more!
- Don't bring booze!

IS THERE AN AGE RESTRICTION?

While we'd love to welcome the young ones on the slopes at Skeena Cat Skiing, the minimum age to ski with us is 14 years of age. Guests aged 14-18 will sign their waiver with a parent or legal guardian's co-signature and they must also be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian while cat skiing.

WHAT IF I AM UNABLE TO COME ON MY TRIP?

Your trip is non-refundable. However, we may be able to fill your spot with another guest and refund you less our cancellation fees. Please review our [Terms & Conditions](#) for details on our cancellation policy. We strongly recommend all guests purchase trip cancellation insurance in case of any unforeseen changes to your travel plans.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

Your ski trip package includes guided cat skiing, accommodation, all meals, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages, the use of an avalanche air bag, probe, shovel and transceiver including a transceiver and avalanche rescue lesson on the first ski day.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I TIP?

It is customary in the Heli and Cat industry for guests to leave a tip for the staff, if you feel that you have had good service. The standard tip when Cat skiing is 10% of your trip cost (So between \$120-145/day) – however, this is not mandatory and some guests tip more, some less. Every tip is appreciated. The tips are spread evenly among all staff. Tips can be given in cash, or on your credit card at the end of your stay. There are many people behind the scenes making your holiday fun and pleasant, such as the mechanic, dishwasher, and the housekeeper.

