



Backcountry Access Guidelines

WELCOME

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience when accessing ski-touring and winter hiking from the resort's boundaries, please follow these guidelines.

Porters is a 7-day, 24-hour operation with many operational and natural hazards. Follow all closures, and directions from resort Patrol. There is **no access** when the resort is closed, on-hold, or outside the normal operating hours (0900-1600).

HAZARDS

Moving within the resort area can be dangerous and may result in serious injury. Hazards include, but are not limited to:

- Environmental - changing avalanche conditions, slide-for-life, deteriorating weather
- Operational - winch-cats with cables, snow groomers, snowmobiles, and explosives
- Collision with other users - not expecting your presence, and not always in control
- In a backcountry emergency your first call is 111, or beacon activation.

REGISTER YOUR DETAILS

On arrival, please register your details at Guest Services. You are not required to sign out on return. Note that we do not track backcountry groups. Alternate registry is at Patrol Dispatch top of T-Bar 3.

ACCESS TO THE BACKCOUNTRY

The safest access to the top of the resort is to purchase a single-ride lift ticket from Guest Services (\$20ea). Alternatively, you may skin with care via our designated route on the outside edge of tracks or piste (see map). Note that the Bluff zone may close during the day while you are backcountry. Always return via the ridge to the backcountry gate if you are unsure. Never travel where you might endanger other ski area users. Importantly, you cannot access or return from the backcountry through any closed terrain within the ski area.

YOUR RETURN

You are required to be back at your vehicle before 4pm. The resort road gate is locked to all vehicles at 5pm. Unless you have advised us that you will not be back the same day, your details may be forwarded to Police SAR. After 4pm winch-cats with cables, and snowmobiles will be on the mountain. If you are running late, give these areas and machinery a very wide clearance. Winch-cables are hard to see, can jump unexpectedly, and can be fatal. Make yourself visible by wearing headtorches, and never assume drivers can see you.

RESORT PATROL

For a chat about area conditions in the morning, your best option is to call in to resort Patrol Dispatch at the top T-bar (T3). Patrol is usually fully occupied in the mornings and unable to meet you at base or Guest Services. Patrol do not operate outside the resort boundary and cannot advise you on travel outside of the resort area.

APRES SKI

At the end of your day out, remember the cosy Porters Lodge at the bottom of the mountain has a bar and tasty food services - this is a great place to relax and connect. Happy-hour usually 4-5pm. Phone 03-318-4011 for booking

