



Intro to Backcountry Skiing

The gear on this list is **required**. If you have any questions about this list or the gear on it, please contact our office or your guide for advice. PPAS also rents most gear (not clothing) on this list.

719-368-9524 info@pikespeakalpineschool.com

Split gear:

- Alpine Touring (AT) skis
- Climbing Skins.
- Adjustable Ski Poles, required for all backcountry tours.
- Ski Strap, rubberized strap for strapping boards together for transport on pack.

Safety gear:

- *Avalanche Transceiver. Digital beacon transmitting on 457 kHz.
- *Probe. Collapsible probe made of aluminum or carbon fiber.
- *Shovel. Aluminum shovel (not plastic) designed for backcountry use.
- Ski rated Helmet, for descents. (be sure you can fit or carry securely on backpack)
- Spare door and ignition key, for groups carpooling.
- Headlamp with fresh batteries.

* Let us know if you need to demo this gear from PPAS.

Footwear:

- Alpine Touring (AT) Ski Boots, Make sure cuff of pants fits over boots.
- Wool or synthetic socks. No cotton.
- Liner sock. This is a personal preference, not required.

Clothing (all to be wool or synthetic):

- Base Layer, long underwear, top and bottoms.
- Insulation Layer, Softshell Pants and Jacket. Fleece is ok if you have hardshell outerlayer.
- Hardshell (full side zip) pants and Jacket with hood.
- Insulated "puffy" Jacket w/ hood. Down or Synthetic. Make sure it fits over all other layers combined.

Headwear:

- Synthetic or wool hat (beanie)
- Buff or neck gaiter. I highly recommend buffs for their versatility.
- Glacier glasses, sunglasses with dark lens' and wraparound sun and wind protection.
- Goggles, dark lens'.
- Visor hat for touring (optional).

Handwear:

- Liner glove
- Softshell glove, water and wind resistant.
- Waterproof glove or mitten.

Other gear:

- ~35L Backpack, make sure your gear (including shovel blade and probe) fits in pack prior to day tour.
- 1L waterbottle (2L max), leakproof bottle like Nalgene works best. I like to bring (2) ½L Thermos' with warm drinks for the cold days.
- Sunscreen/Lipscreen with SPF
- *Small First Aid Kit.
- *Emergency Bivy or Guide Tarp/Sled
- *Multi-tool and Repair kit (specific to your boards, bindings and boots).
- *Camera, Navigation tools (map, compass, smartphone).
- WagBag
- Snacks, about 1000 calories for the day. Sandwich, candy bars, and trailmix work well, bring what tastes good to you.

* Group gear and your guide will be carrying this.