

Backcountry Basecamp Equipment List

The equipment and clothing you bring will have a big impact on the quality of your trip. Make sure to bring all items listed except for items that are listed as optional (either are luxuries, or your guide will be carrying for the group). Temperatures can vary widely in the springtime. They can increase from -20C overnight to +10C on sunny days. For clothing use the 'layer system': Light technical clothing that doesn't take much space in your backpack and dries quickly if sweaty or wet. Layers that can be put on and taken off fast if weather conditions change during the day. If you have any questions about anything, please contact us.

Technical Equipment

- Alpine Touring skis (lightweight tech bindings recommended)
- Alpine touring boots (With Vibram sole)
- Ski poles (with regular powder baskets)
- Climbing skins (As wide as the waist of your ski)
- Avalanche transceiver (with extra batteries)
- Lightweight snow shovel
- Avalanche probe
- Backpack for day touring (30-35 liters) with outside straps to attach skis.
- Repair kit / spare parts for your bindings (optional)
- Ski crampons
- Harness, 2 non locking carabiners, 2 locking carabiners, 2 x 5m prussiks
- Lightweight mountaineering ice axe
- Lightweight mountaineering crampons

Clothing

- Wind and waterproof shell jacket with hood (Gore Tex or similar)
- Wind and waterproof over pants (Gore Tex or similar with integrated gaiters)
- Warm pants (insulated / fleece/ polypro)
- Fleece pullover or jacket
- Medium weight fleece shirt or vest
- Capilene, fleece or wool underwear, top and bottoms
- 2 Pairs of gloves (lightweight and heavier weight)
- Scarf, neck gaiter or bandanna
- Socks: thicker outer (wool) and thinner liners
- Wool or fleece hat, covering the ears
- Sun hat, preferably with wide rim
- Down vest
- Down Booties with covers
- Spare underwear, socks

Other items:

- Winter sleeping bag (mommy style, rated to -20 Celsius or -4 Fahrenheit minimum)
- Insulated sleeping pad (full length, Ridgerest with a Thermarest above is ideal)
- Snacks and lunches for at least 5 days (nuts, dried fruit, sausage, cheese, etc.)
- Sun Glasses (with very good UV protection, extra pair is a good idea)
- Sun screen and lip protection
- Ski Goggles
- A 1 liter Water bottle, preferably insulated (Camel backs not recommended)
- Personal items (Prescription medicine, contact lenses, etc.)
- Pocket knife or Leatherman tool
- Headlamp with spare batteries
- Small Blister kit
- Zip-lock bag for wallet and other documents to keep them dry (recommended)
- Camera, batteries (optional)
- Skin wax (a small amount)
- Toiletries (minimum supply)
- Ear Plugs (optional but very useful)
- Light stuff sacs or zip lock bags to keep your backpack organized (optional)
- A small book and/or writing material
- Health/Travel insurance documents/numbers
- Large duffel bag (soft cover)
- Bowl, cup, silverware

Note:

Every basecamp is unique. The above list will differ depending on location, access, and type of terrain. For example, some basecamps require glaciers and mountaineering gear while other don't. Let us know your thoughts and if you have any questions.