

Day Ski Trips - Gear & Clothing Check List



Our clothing and equipment is vital to the safety, success and comfort of any trip. Please make sure you have everything on this list, all is mandatory unless stated otherwise. Please bring only high quality, proven items. Have your boots broken in and make sure everything fits and works well for you before the start of a trip. You shouldn't need anything else not listed here but if there is an item you would like to bring just ask. Please let me know if you have any questions.

NC = Nick's choice. PG = Patagonia clothing company. BD = Black Diamond equipment company.

Clothing: All clothing must be wool or synthetic, absolutely no cotton.

- ___ **Ski Socks.** Fit with your boots, thin is generally better. NC: PG or Voormi ski socks.
- ___ **Underwear.** NC: light-weight merino wool or synthetic.
- ___ **Base Layer Top.** Light-weight to mid-weight, avoid dark colors - hot with sun. NC: PG. Voormi.
- ___ **Base Layer Bottom.** Light-weight to mid-weight. NC: PG. Voormi.
- ___ **Mid Layer Top.** NC: PG R1 pullover. Voormi Access pullover or High-E hoodie for colder temps.
- ___ **Sun Hoodie.** For April-summer trips. NC: PG sun hoodie. Voormi River Run sun hoodie, light color.
- ___ **Hard Shell Top (Gore-Tex).** NC: Gore-tex Pro - Patagonia, Outdoor Research or Arcteryx.
- ___ **Hard Shell Ski Pants (Gore-Tex).** With built in ski-boot gaiter, zippered vents, pockets.
- ___ **Belt** and/or **Suspenders**, Required if stowing beacon in pants.
- ___ **Insulated Puffy Jacket with Hood.** NC: PG Macro Puff for winter or Micro/Nano for spring.
Have 2 puffy's and puff pants for cold winter temps (Macro puff hoodie and Nano puff pullover).
- ___ **Gloves, 3 pairs:** Thin gloves, mid-weight shell & warm shell. Bring extra. NC: BD - Trekker glove for thin. Tour or Legend glove for mid. Crew or Guide glove for cold temps.
- ___ **Mittens.** For the extra cold days.
- ___ **Warm Hat & Buff / Balaclava.** Must cover ears. NC: PG. Voormi Thermal Beanie. Buff neck gaiter.
- ___ **Sun Hat.** Not necessary Nov-Jan in Alaska.
- ___ **Sunglasses.** NC: Julbo with polarized photo-chromatic lens (changes category 2-4)
Light lens great for stormy days and mid winter months (changes category 1-3).
Category 4 lens if on glacier in the springtime.
- ___ **Sunglass lanyard.** NC: Chums or Croakies.
- ___ **Ski Goggles.** Have low-light and sunny lenses. NC: Julbo with category 1-3 photo-chromatic lens.
- ___ **Ski Helmet.** Required. NC: Dynafit TLT. Smith Summit. Salomon MTN Lab.

Touring Gear:

- ___ **Backpack.** 30-35 Liters. Large enough to fit everything INSIDE, including probe, shovel & water bottles. Avalanche airbag or Avalung optional. NC: BD Cirque 35L.
- ___ **Boots: AT Ski / Snowboard.** Good to have a professional boot fitter find you the best boot for your foot and ability. Intuition boot liners increase performance, comfort and warmth. Consider a custom foot bed. NC: Dynafit boots with Intuition Tour Wrap and Sidas “flash fit” custom insoles. But remember the best boot is the boot that fits your foot the best.
- ___ **AT Skis / Split-board.** Avoid heavy skis/boards. NC: Voile SuperCharger or HyperV8 for winter, the UltraVector is good for late spring/summer skiing. Choose the Hyper versions for weight savings to make skinning up easier.
- ___ **Bindings.** Tech bindings ideal, brakes recommended or have leashes. Have boot & DIN properly adjusted on binding. NC: ATK Raider Evo 11 or 13. Split-boards: Voile or Spark bindings w/ heel lock or hard boot setup.
- ___ **Skins.** With tail clips. Cut to your skis / split-board. NC: Voile or Pomoca. BD. G3.
- ___ **Fresh Ski Wax.** Required for multi-day trips. Use “all temp” wax or warm/cold snow for conditions.
- ___ **Ski Poles.** With snow baskets. NC: Voile CamLock 2 (or 3 piece for split-boarding).
- ___ **Ski Strap.** 1 required, a few recommended. NC: Voile Ski Strap 20-25”.
- ___ **Ski Crampons.** For late March through summer. NC: Dynafit or match for your binding type.
- ___ **Avalanche Beacon.** **Must be** a modern three-antenna with current software update and **less than 10 years old.** Fly with it in your carry-on bag to prevent damage. Replace batteries at 50%. NC: Mammut Barryvox / Barryvox S.
- ___ **Extra beacon batteries.** new name brand Alkaline with LR03 stamp. Stack them like logs together with electrical tape covering ends, if the ends touch each other or other metal they will drain.
- ___ **Probe.** High quality, durable, 280cm minimum. NC: BD QuickDraw Tour 280cm. BCA 300cm.
- ___ **Shovel.** Quality avalanche shovel, absolutely **No Plastic** and **No Cheap** brands such as “Life Line”. NC: Voile Hoback Mini D handle.
- ___ **Water bottles and Thermos.** 2 liters total. Filled with water. Wide mouth. No Camelback hose type, they freeze and leak. NC: 1L Nalgene and 1L GSI Vacuum Thermos for winter. Two 1L Nalgene’s for spring.
- ___ **Water bottle insulation covers.** For winter-spring trips. NC: Forty Below bottle boot.
- ___ **Trail Food.** For all the day(s) plus a little extra. Except for multi-day overnight trips, you provide your own lunches and snacks. Easy to eat and high in fat and calories. In the backcountry lunch starts after breakfast and ends before dinner. Nick’s favorites: nut, fruit & chocolate trail mixes. Sandwich. Bars. Dark Chocolate. Shot blocks or Gu gels w/ caffeine. Store in a small stuff sack. For long trips have variety. About 2,000+ calories per day.

___ **Headlamp.** Carry extra batteries. Lithium batteries recommended as they last way longer, are lighter, work better in cold and give 100% power until dead. (For avalanche beacon, name brand Alkaline must be used). NC: BD Storm rechargeable w/ extra lithium batteries.

___ **Compass & Inclinometer.** Not mandatory but recommended. NC: Suunto MC-2.

___ **Sunscreen.** SPF 30+. Not necessary Nov-Jan in Alaska. NC: Dermatone. Neutrogena.

___ **Lip Balm w/ SPF.** add spare for multi-day trips. NC: Dermatone Lip Balm.

___ **Personal Medications,** if applicable. Please let Nick know of Any medical issues / medications.

Optional:

___ **Extra clothing.** 2nd puffy jacket and puffy pants for cold days. Wind shell jacket.

___ **Soft Shell Ski Pants** optional but recommended for April and later trips, they must have a cuff/gaiter that seals to your boots. Note that you must have hard shell (Gore-tex) pants packed for the trip.

___ **Camera.** Extra battery. Avoid large heavy SLR's. No drones please.

___ **GPS unit.** Can be [Gaia gps app](#) premium on your phone with maps downloaded for field use.

___ **GPS maps downloaded.** Select "Gaia Topo (feet)". Also "Slope Angle" & "USGS Topo" is useful.

___ **Phone lanyard.** Optional but recommended to not loose your phone in Mtns or into the water.

___ **Multi-Tool.** Knife, pliers, scissors. Keep it light. NC: Leatherman Juice S2.

___ **Small Personal First-Aid Kit.** Blister repair, athletic tape, gauze, bandaid, Ibuprofen, Tylenol...

___ **Travel boot dryer.** To dry your boots out each night. NC: Peete Go Portable.

___ **Nikwax or MountainFlow Eco Skin Treatment.** Required for spring-summer.

Apply before trip. No wet skins, no globing and it increases glide without loosing grip. Otherwise have Glob Stopper or MountainFlow Eco skin wax bar.

For May-June Ski Touring Trips:

- ___ Hiking/trail running shoes with separate socks than your ski socks for approaches.
- ___ Ice axe for self arrest. Short 50-55cm mountaineering axe. NC: BD Raven Ultra 55cm.
- ___ T-shirt base layer, sun hoodie, sun gloves and soft-shell ski pants.
- ___ Warm temp ski wax and skin treatment.
- ___ Bear Spray if you have it otherwise Nick has extras.

Shops and Rentals in Alaska:

- AlaskaMountaineering.com - Mountaineering store in Anchorage. **Backcountry rentals:** Alpine touring skis, AT boots, skins, poles, beacon, probe, shovel.
- HoardingMarmot.com - Good used gear store in Anchorage. **Backcountry rentals:** Alpine touring skis, AT boots, split-board, skins, poles, beacon, probe, shovel. Receive 10% off with your AGC trip booking.
- blueandgoldak.com - Snowboard shop in Anchorage. **Split-board rentals.**
- summitskico.com - Ski shop in Anchorage.
- PowderHoundAK.com - Girdwood ski shop and **professional boot fitting.**
- Whenever possible, please support *your* local outdoor gear stores.