

The tour includes the following:

Snowshoes & hiking poles, hot chocolate and maple taffy, authentic historical props and a qualified guide.

Age Restriction: 8+

Departs Banff daily @ 115pm and goes for roughly 4hrs.

Snowshoeing time is roughly 2-2.5hrs with a distance of 3.5km

Price: \$74/adult & \$42/child

Dress Requirement:

Joining this trip from Banff means being prepared for any kind of weather. High alpine weather can be extreme and may be completely different than in town weather. You **MUST** have winter boots or hiking boots, winter coat and pants, warm hat and warm gloves. Ski goggles recommended.

Lake Louise:

There are a few ways to take in the grandeur of the Jewel of the Rockies as it is affectionately known. Anyway you travel, it takes 45mins-1hr to get there from Banff.

The cheapest way is to get a ski connector vehicle from the hotel, to downtown Banff and get on the ski bus. The ski bus will take you to the Lake Louise Ski Resort where upon you can get a free shuttle from Lake Louise Ski Resort to Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. This will cost \$15 return per person but does take some effort on the guests' part to hop on/hop off shuttles.

The next way I would suggest getting to Lake Louise would be via Brewster Bus. This bus will pick you up from the front doors of the Rimrock Resort, drop you off at the shoreline of Lake Louise, pick you up from Lake Louise and then return you to the front doors of Rimrock Resort. This service will cost \$29.95/ad. Pickup times from Rimrock start at 1030am and returns from Lake Louise range from 1215pm – 515pm.

If a guided tour is more your style you can take the Discover Lake Louise option. This tour takes you to Lake Louise via the Bow Valley Parkway which is the scenic route between Banff-Lake Louise along which you have some more time to take in the beautiful Canadian Rockies as well as the increased possibility of spotting wildlife. Upon your arrival to Lake Louise the guide will provide you with a bit of history and a snowshoe sampler (how-to snowshoe) before letting you go on your way to explore the surrounding area for 5hrs. This may seem a long time but between wondering the Chateau, marvelling at the Lake, doing some easy walking around the lakeshore, maybe taking a horse drawn sleigh ride or even dog sledding; this time will fly by. Lunch isn't provided but there is hot chocolate and maple cookies available if you get peckish while on the bus. Pickup from Rimrock Resort is @ 10am, returning around 5-530pm. The cost is \$72/adult

Finally, there is the option for a private tour of Lake Louise with one of the taxi or limousine companies around town. A taxi tour is going to be \$220 + tax + gratuity and lasts for 3hrs while a limousine private tour (town car) will be around the \$450 mark (includes tax/grat).

Activities that you can do in Lake Louise are listed with details below:

Ice Skating Take in the amazing surroundings of Lake Louise while zipping around the rink created on Lake Louise itself. You can rent your skates from the Chateau for \$13/2hr or \$16/day or pick them up from Snowtips in Banff before you leave for \$14/day. The Chateau in Lake Louise can get very busy so I would recommend getting your equipment in town beforehand, so you don't run the risk of missing out on skates.

Sleigh Rides in Lake Louise

45minute sleigh rides around the lake shore of Lake Louise will cost \$35/ad and \$30/ch (under 5 is free). This will need to be booked before arrival.

ICE FISHING

There are many guides in the area but the gentleman we prefer to use is Jim Dykstra. He will pick you up around 730am and take you to the Spray Lakes area where you will get to fish in comfortable heated shacks. The half day tours usually return to the hotel around 1 or 2pm and the full day will return whenever you are ready. That said, if you wish to return to the hotel beforehand Jim will be more than happy to bring the group back early. The price includes all your fishing gear as well as lunch and warm drinks to keep you going. Here is a link to Jim's webpage if you wanted to see some of the fish and equipment he uses

http://www.banfflyfishingguides.com/ice_fishing_guides.htm The prices are listed below

Rates	Half Day	Full Day
One Pax	\$375	\$450
Two Pax	\$450	\$550
Three Pax	\$575	\$650
Four Pax	\$650	\$750

SNOWSHOEING

The Snow Shoeing on top of the World Experience takes place at the [Sunshine Village Ski Resort](#). You meet the guide at the bottom of the gondola and ride up to the village and then up another chairlift to a snowy paradise above the tree line. The guide will help you put your snowshoes on in the village and then you'll proceed to walk away from the ski area into a white powder paradise! You will stop for a hot cocoa and cookie where the guide will be able to answer any questions you have and give you a little history of the area. Joining this trip from Banff means being prepared for unusual challenges: Days may be sunny with snow sparkling off of fresh snow or they may be very snowy and you'll be walking in near whiteout conditions trying to keep the wind from tearing your hats off! No matter what, every day is a great adventure. On the beautiful days you'll finish with memories of a sea of mountains in all directions. On days when the weather is "not so good" as we like to say, you'll head home with the sense of exhilaration and accomplishment that comes from a real experience - a real mountain winter day! This program is available as a scheduled departure every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The tour includes the following:

Professional hiking guide, transportation from Banff to Sunshine Village (scheduled trips only), snowshoes, trekking poles, Gondola & chair lift ticket, hot chocolate & snacks.

Trip Duration:

Approx. 4 1/2 hour round trip from Banff

Approx. 3 1/2 hours from the Sunshine Village Parking lot

**Snowshoeing time: Approx. 2 - 2 1/2 hours

Season:

From mid-November to May

Age Restriction: Not suitable for children under 12 years old

Cost: \$89 per person plus tax

The Snowshoe to Marble Canyon Tour begins in the beautiful Kootenay National Park where you will get the chance to admire the amazing colors of Marble Canyon. As you walk past the 40metre deep gorge you will be able to be amazed at water's power of erosion of the limestone rock. After the wonder of the gorge you will be taken through a forest where you can search for the tracks of snowshoe hare, moose and wolves. The highlight of the trip for many is the maple taffy treat they created for you halfway through to keep you warmed up.

SLEIGH RIDES

Join your cowboy (or cowgirl) driver as they take you on a sleigh ride with your family, friends or loved ones. Relax and take in the breathtaking views and sparkling winter air of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. The sleigh ride will take you through the Bow River Valley showing you the remote areas around Banff, western style! The tours last for 45mins.

Price: Adult; 13 years+: \$36.00 Child; 4-12 years: \$27.00 Infant; 0-3 years: No charge

Departs: Season dates - 12th Dec 2017 - 5th April 2018 Daily at 10am, 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm & 8pm
(20th Dec 2014 - 4th January 2015 - Daily on the hour, 10:00am - 8:00pm)

If it is a romantic trip for two that you're looking for there is a Romantic Sleigh Ride where you will get to enjoy a trip by the Bow River in the sparkling winter air. This tour lasts for 45mins runs from 1030am – 730pm and includes champagne, Bernard Callebaut chocolates and blankets to keep you warm. The price is \$189/couple.

ICEWALKS

There are three Ice Walk Tours you can go on. Two of them are in Johnston's Canyon and one is in Grotto Canyon.
Johnston Canyon (Day)

On the Johnston Canyon daytime Ice Walk there are some wildlife watching opportunities on the Bow Valley Parkway wildlife corridor, so your small group (max 12) will keep a keen eye out for wolves, moose, elk and coyotes. When you arrive at the canyon, the guide will make sure you're safe and comfortable, by providing ice-cleats that strap on over your winter shoes which make walking on the sometimes-icy trail, simple. The guides have many stories to share once inside the canyon, from the gold and silver swindle of 'Silver City', to pointing out the tiny ancient seabed fossils that dot the canyon walls, to modern day thrill seekers ice-climbing adventures. The price is \$74/adult and \$42/child, the tour departs at 830am and 130pm and lasts for 4hrs.

Johnston Canyon (Night)

Use headlamps to light your way through the narrow canyon as your small group (max 12) follow your guide to the lower ice falls. The catwalks built into the canyon walls make this an easy trip for everyone. Along the way your guide will tell stories, point out unique features by powerful up lights and pause for moments of darkness so you can appreciate the canyon at night. At the turn around point they'll light up the lower icefalls and tunnel for viewing and photo opportunities. You will take away a new impression of Johnston Canyon and a souvenir headlamp for future adventures. Tour start date is mid-January to start of February weather dependent. The tour goes for 2.5hrs, departs at 630pm and costs \$74/adult and \$42/child.

Grotto Canyon

At Grotto Canyon, the Ice Walk hikes the frozen creek bed, through a narrow canyon, past unusual rock formations and icefalls. You might see ice climbers scaling the frozen waterfalls, but for many the highlight of the Grotto Canyon Ice Walk are the ancient native pictographs, that you could easily miss, if they aren't pointed out to you. There is now a theory that one of the symbols could be a Kokapelli, a flute player painted in ochre, used only by the Hopi people, some 500-1300 years ago. The tour costs \$74/adult and \$42/child, goes for 4hrs and departs @ 830am daily.

SNOWMOBILING

Toby Creek Adventures is our go to tour company for snowmobiling. Their most popular tour is the Paradise Mine Half Day tour. This tour lasts for 3hrs and during that time you will get to view some great mountain vistas, have free "play time" in an open powder bowl, get the chance to see wildlife, dine on snacks in the Paradise Mine cabin and visit the Paradise Mine itself. The price for this tour is \$219/driver, \$109/passenger and \$79/child.

If it's a full day of fun, you want that the Full Day Paradise Basin tour is for you. You will get to visit the remnants of an old silver mining town located at around 8000ft, have a good chance to see wildlife, view great mountain vistas and take a spectacular icefall walk in a 600-year-old forest. You also get around 30-45mins of play time in an open powder bowl after which they'll serve up a great lunch in their warm cozy cabin. This tour lasts for 5hrs and costs \$269/driver, \$135/passenger and \$99/child.

Transport can be arranged but is subject to availability.

DOG SLEDDING

We have had great experiences with Snowy Owl Dog Sledding Tours. They offer a wide array of options from two-hour tours to full day excursions.

Powderhound Express: This is a popular two-hour tour that will introduce you to the wonderful sport of dogsledding. The tour contains hours of fun with great photo opportunities! There are multiple sled layouts with instructor driven or guest driven sleds. If you choose a guest driven sled, don't worry, they provide more than adequate instructions on how to much your team and I find it is the more authentic way to enjoy the sport. A guest driven sled can have up to 3 persons on it as long as the total weight is under 500lbs. The prices for this is 2-person guest-driven sled - \$380 and 3-person guest driven \$480. If you would provide to sit back and enjoy the ride with an instructor on board the prices would be as follows 1-person instructor driven - \$280 and 2-person instructor driven - \$380. This tour also includes a little snack and hot beverage, as well a stop to introduce yourself to the dogs and give them cuddles and treats. This tour is suitable for ages two and up. Transportation to and from The Rimrock Resort is provided.

Available four times a day: 9am, 11am, 1pm & 3pm, from December through April, weather permitting. Please allow 4 hours trip time to and from the Rimrock Resort. (Pick up time is one hour prior to the tour start time)

Sunfeather Winterlude: This half day tour offers up to three hours of sled time with your team along the enchanting Goat Creek and Spray Lake. For lunch you will be offered gourmet snacks and hot beverage by the fireside in our beautiful Canadian Rockies. This tour takes approximately 6 hours return trip from the Rimrock Resort. This tour is available January through March, snow and weather dependent; minimum 48 hours' notice is required for booking. This tour may be limited to certain days of the week. Menu choices are required 24 hours in advance. Trips are highly dependent upon trail conditions and weather; Snowy Owl Tours reserves the right to modify or cancel on the same day. Must be 10 years old or older. Minimum two adults per sled. Prices are as follows: 1-person instructor driven sled - \$625, 2 person instructor driven sled - \$825, 2 person guest driven sled - \$825, 3 person guest driven sled - \$1200 In each case, due to high demand, Snowy Owl requires 72 hours' notice if you should need to cancel.

Ski School – Please see the below table for costs. There are multi day packages also available.

SKI SCHOOL			
	Lake Louise	Sunshine Village	Norquay
Child Full Day (5.5hrs)	110*	120*	99*
Child Half Day (2hrs)	87*	95*	79*
Child Full Day Lesson & Lift	125~	130~	N/A
Child Half Day Lesson & Lift	105~	110~	N/A
Adult Full Day (5.5hrs)	155*	165*	*
Adult Half Day (2hrs)	125*	130*	84*
Adult Full Day Lesson & Lift	205~	215~	N/A
Adult Half Day Lesson & Lift	172~	178~	N/A

Notes *Does not incl. GST, lift ticket, rentals, lunch

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Lift Tickets –There are multiday packages available. The Tri-Area tickets (<https://www.skibig3.com/lift-tickets/>) are good if you want the flexibility of going to any mountain on any day. If you are going to use the ski bus to and from the ski hills and are paying for adult or child tickets (but not youth) it makes it worth your while to purchase the tri-area lift ticket, as the bus itself costs \$15 for a return ticket; saving \$5p.p per day. The ski bus DOES NOT pickup from the Rimrock Resort, however we have hotel vehicles that will transport our guests to the downtown pickup location.

LIFT TICKETS				
	Lake Louise	Sunshine Village	Norquay	Tri- Area
Child Full Day	39	42	29	35.7
Child Half Day	29	N/A	18	N/A
Youth Full Day	79	85	56	107.1
Youth Half Day	59	N/A	44	N/A
Adult Full Day	104	109	74	119
Adult Half Day	79	N/A	60	N/A
Senior Full Day	79	85	56	107.1
Senior Half Day	59	N/A	44	N/A

Child (6-12) Youth (13-17) Adult (18-64) Senior (65+) GST +

IMPORTANT NOTE: there are limited spots on transport from Rimrock Resort to ski shuttle departure from downtown. Please book your spot early to ensure a place in our vehicles. Any “no shows” for bookings will be given last priority for any subsequent days. Alternative transportation to downtown is available by the Roam public bus system that departs Rimrock Resort every 40mins.

I think that covers everything ski related but if you do have any questions please let me know and I’d be happy to help.

Banff Area Activities

If you would like to participate in any of these activities the concierge at the Rimrock can book them for you.

SKIING/BOARDING INFO

Norquay: A smaller hill but still lots of fun for the whole family. It is smaller than the other two resorts in the area but still offers some breathtaking views of Banff from the North end of town. Tickets here are cheaper and it is a great place to ski if you only have a few hours because they sell hourly tickets.

(<http://winter.banffnorquay.com/tickets-and-passes/day-tickets/>) They also offer snow tubing and night skiing. (<http://winter.banffnorquay.com/snow-tubing/>)

Sunshine Village: Sunshine is the largest ski resort in the Bow Valley. The runs are more numerous but shorter than Lake Louise; this isn't a bad thing however as you don't quite get to the "Oh my god my legs are burning" stage that can happen at Lake Louise sometimes. Sunshine Village definitely gets the best and most snow out of all three resorts so if there is a powder day make sure you go to this resort. Skiing on powder days are quite different so you may need a morning or day lesson. I will put lesson prices at the end of this email. Sunshine hasn't released lift ticket prices as of yet but this link will take you there when we are a little closer to the opening date. <http://www.skibanff.com/liftpasses/>

Lake Louise: Lake Louise is a great mountain for all ages and experience levels. It has the best terrain park out of the three ski resorts, has the longer runs than sunshine for those fun groomer runs against friends and family and hosts some terrific ski events like the world cup downhill and many other ski/snowboard freestyle events. Lake Louise can take a little bit longer to get a good base down because they focus on the downhill track so much at the start of the season for the world cup but after December it boasts terrific groomers all over the resort.

<https://www.skilouise.com/tickets-and-passes.php>

Rental Equipment – Please come and see us at the concierge desk for discount vouchers for **Snotips**. They have everything you will need for your winter holiday e.g. skis, poles, ski boots, snowboards, boots, clothing, helmets, goggles. Keep in mind you will need this clothing for activities other than skiing (i.e. dog sledding, tubing, snowmobiling) so rent it for the appropriate duration. Snotips are open 7am – 9pm and once you have all your gear fitted they will have it delivered to the hotel for you to pick up the following morning. That way you aren't carrying around all this ski gear in town. It's very convenient. Here is the link for ski package rental

<http://www.snowtips-bactrax.com/WINTERRENTALS.html>.

Another great opportunity for rentals is **Black Tie Ski Rentals**. This company adds a more personal touch by fitting your skis in the comfort of your hotel room. Having issues with your boots once you're at the hill? Just give Jason and his team a call and they will come out to the hill with some other boot options to refit you and get you back on the hill as soon as possible. Black Tie Ski has all the latest and greatest in ski/snowboard technology and brands, they have something for everyone of every level and terrain. <https://banff.blacktieskis.com/>