

Backcountry Ski Equipment Checklist for Shrine Mountain Inn Trip

Below is a list of the gear that you will need for this trip. If there something on the list that you do not have you can probably borrow it from one of us. The weight and volume of stuff we haul to the cabin is limited. Your clothing and equipment (ski equipment excluded) should not weigh much more than 20 pounds. You cannot bring an entirely fresh outfit for each day.

This list is a provided as a guideline. You do not have to match it exactly. The important thing is that you need multiple layers so that you can adjust your clothing for everything from a full on blizzard to thin lightweight clothing for touring on a sunny day when you need surprisingly little insulation.

A. Ski Equipment

Rent randonee, also called alpine touring, style gear from:

[Mountain Outfitters](#)

112 S. Ridge St.

Breckenridge, CO 80424

(970) 453-2201

You will need skis with bindings, boots, climbing skins, and adjustable length ski poles. Call several weeks ahead of time to reserve the equipment. They will need your boot size. Tell them you are going to Shrine Mountain Inn and that our trip will mostly be touring with no steep downhill skiing. You will need to pick up the gear on Saturday, February 27 so that we can show you how to use it on Sunday, the day before we will hike to the hut. I can go with you to pick up the rental gear.

B. Other Equipment

1. Day Pack

Must be large enough to hold bulky extra layers of clothing, water bottles, skins, etc. – about 2500 to 4000 cubic inches is about right.

2. Headlamp with Extra Batteries

The new LED varieties are nice because they burn many hours on one set of batteries

3. Hydration System

Water bottles – Bring at least two, wide mouth, 1 liter containers. Nalgene brand is popular. Many people like using a camelback type system but I find them difficult in the winter because the water freezes in the tube. Some people bring a small lightweight thermos for tea or hot chocolate.

4. Sunglasses and Goggles

5. Sunscreen and Lip balm

6. Watch

7. Toiletries, other Personal Items

8. Reading Material

9. Pocket knife

10. Sleeping Bag

Light weight, small sleeping bag.

C. Clothing

1. Base Layer

Long Underwear, Top & Bottom – Moisture transporting wool, synthetic, or blended layer worn under shell pants during warmer conditions, or under intermediate layers in extremely cold conditions. Examples are polypropylene, Capilene, and bi-component DriClima. – Two pair of each for this trip should be about right

2. Intermediate Lower Layers

Traditional wool pants or fleece tights/pants than can be worn alone or under shell pants for average Colorado conditions. Synthetics include 100 weight microfleece or Polartec 100 stretch.

3. Intermediate Upper Layers

Midweight or expedition-weight fleece, wool, or blended shirt or pullover, or vest.

4. Heavier Insulating Layers

200 to 300 weight fleece, piles, or wool sweaters, or full zip jackets; useful in very cold conditions or for lunch breaks and trips to the outhouse.

5. Shell Jacket

Waterproof breathable (Gortex) or soft shell (Schoeller). Should have a generous cut that goes over all of your layers and has superior venting capability, pockets large enough for gear (including skins), and a hood for blizzard conditions.

6. Shell Pants

Waterproof breathable (Gortex) or soft shell (Schoeller).

7. Some King of Pants, Knickers, or Tights

8. Windbreaker or Windshirt

9. Socks

2-3 pair, wool or wool blend is good

10. Handwear

Mitten Shell, Wool or Pile Mittens, Gloves, Glove liners - A versatile system of layers and shells works best. Having options of thicker and thinner layers allow you to adjust to the changing weather conditions.

11. Wool or Fleece Hat

12. Visor cap

Ball cap, providing a bit of shade over the eyes and face.

13. Balaclava or neck gaiter

The ability to cover the entire neck and face is an absolute necessity.

14. Leg gaiters

They will keep your pants dry, legs warmer and the snow out of your boots. They should be 12-16" high. Outdoor Research is a good brand. If using ski pants with built-in snow cuffs, you can do without the gaiters.

15. Hut Wear (cotton is ok for the hut)

a) T-Shirt

b) Light pants or shorts

c) Hut Slippers or Booties

Shoes for hut wear - Down booties are popular. Almost anything that covers your feet when you take off your ski boots will do.