

ADVANCED SKI MOUNTAINEERING COURSE
(April 21, 22, 23, & 24 2016)



Course Overview

This course will take place in the heart of the Beartooth Mountains and will be staged from the Mount Zimmer Yurt. The alpine routes and ski mountaineering objectives in this area are the perfect place to develop the skills necessary to safely climb and ski classic ski mountaineering routes throughout the world. Weather/Conditions permitting, the objective of the course is to climb and ski/snowboard some of the classic ski mountaineering lines in the Beartooths.

Course Topics

- Proper use of Ice axe and crampons
- Rope Skills
- Spring weather and snowpack assessment
- Route finding/safe uphill and downhill travel
- Evaluating Avalanche Hazards and terrain risks

Course Includes

- Lodging
- Course Instruction and Course Materials
- Food
- Transportation to the Mount Zimmer Yurt

Cost

- \$795 per person

Prerequisites

- Advanced downhill skiing skills
- Able to ski slopes up to 45 degrees in variable snow conditions (ie.firm,powder,crust)
- Good physical condition and fitness level.
- Required Equipment
- Ice Axe
- Beacon, Shovel & Probe
- Helmet
- Boot Crampons
- Ski Crampons
- Climbing Harness, ATC, and two locking carabiners
- AT Skis or Splitboard with climbing skins

Recommended Reading

- Backcountry Skiing: Skills For Ski Touring And Ski Mountaineering, Martin Volken

Course Itinerary

Day 1

- 0800- Meet at Beartooth Powder Guides office at 304 East main Street, across from The Super 8 Motel. Course Overview, introductions, weather forecast/avalanche advisory discussion.
- 0930- Gear check and prepare for departure to Mount Zimmer Yurt
- 1000- Depart for Mount Zimmer Yurt
- 1130- Lunch & Hut Orientation
- 1230-Rest of Day.- Rope Skills Workshop on Terrain surrounding Yurt to include anchor building, basic knots, belaying and rappelling)Negotiating tricky terrain and downhill skiing management in groups
- 1800- Appetizers and Review day's activities. Q & A session
- 1900- Dinner

Day 2

- 0600- Breakfast
- 0700- Weather and Snowpack discussion. Discuss today's objectives
- 0730- Depart for day's objective. If weather and snow stability allows discuss and implement the use of Ice Axes & Crampons in appropriate terrain. Discuss, demonstrate and practice self-arrest techniques. Route decisions and conditions will be discussed throughout the day with an emphasis on safe travel techniques in the mountains. Lunch will be in the field.
- 1700- Appetizers and review of the day's activities. Q & A session
- 1800- Dinner
- 1900- Route planning discussion and trip plan for next day

Day 3

- 0600- Breakfast
- 0700- Weather and Snowpack discussion. Discuss today's objectives.
- 0730- Depart for day's objective. If weather and conditions allow, today's objective will be climbing and skiing a "Beartooth Classic Line" while implementing the skills learned at practiced the previous 2 days. Lunch will be in the field.
- 1700- Appetizers and review of the day's activities. Q & A Session
- 1800- Dinner
- 1900- Route planning and trip plan for next day

Day 4

- 0600- Breakfast
- 0700- Weather and snowpack discussion. Discuss today's objectives.
- 0730- Depart for day's objective. Today's objective will be closer to Yurt and encompass the skills learned in the course.
- 1400-Return to Yurt. Review course and Q & A session for last minute questions. Pack for departure.
- 1530-Depart Yurt
- 1630-Return to Cooke City

Permitted by the Gallatin, Shoshone, & Custer National Forests

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