



Winter Cabin Trip Gear List

This gear list is meant for a winter cabin trip. If you're planning on camping in the winter, use your judgment to modify the list, or talk to/email us for packing advice.

* available to borrow from the HOC

PERSONAL GEAR

For the cabin

- *Sleeping bag (20° F is fine) + stuff sack
- *Ground pad
- Small pillow (optional)
- Comfortable shoes/sandals for wearing around the cabin
- Fun social things for the evenings! Games (e.g. Apples to Apples, cards), musical instruments (e.g. guitars, fiddles), etc.

Upper body clothing

- Non-cotton base layer top(s)
- *2 warm layers: these could be fleece, wool, or puffy
- *Waterproof shell. This must be able to fit over all your other layers!
- *Warm wool or fleece hat
- Scarf/neck warmer
- Balaclava or similar (optional)
- Bandanna(s) (optional)
- Ski goggles, especially if you plan to go above tree line
- *Warm, insulated, waterproof gloves
- *Thin liner gloves to wear inside your big, warm gloves

Lower body clothing

- Non-cotton base layer bottom(s)
- *Fleece pants
- Synthetic hiking pants
- *Snow/rain/wind pants. These must be waterproof!

Feet

- Hiking boots
- Thick wool socks (2 or 3 pairs)
- Non-cotton liner socks (2 or 3 pairs; these help prevent blisters)
- *Gaiters

Miscellaneous

- Headlamp + extra batteries (available for purchase from the HOC)
- Sunglasses. Very important – snow is very bright!
- *Daypack. You're going to need to carry all this stuff up a mountain, so bring something comfortable in which to carry everything. (Of course, cabin gear will stay in the cabin during the day.)
- *Water bottles (3 liter capacity)
- Money (for lunch or dinner on the road, if necessary)

Toiletries

- Toothbrush + toothpaste
- Sunscreen
- Chapstick (with sunscreen)
- Any medications you need
- Personal sanitary needs

Optional

- Camera
- Hiking poles

GROUP GEAR

Fun snow stuff!

- *Snowshoes
- *Crampons
- *Skis, boots, and poles

*Sleds

Safety and Miscellaneous

First aid kit

Map

Compass

Cell phone

P-cord

Duct tape

Important Notes, Tips, and Tricks

- **General clothing notes:** None of your clothing should be cotton! This is very important! When cotton gets wet it loses its ability to keep you warm (and takes a long time out dry our again), which can lead to hypothermia. And nobody likes hypothermia. Like cotton, down is useless if it gets wet, so only bring a down jacket if it will fit under your rain gear. In addition, all of your clothing should be layerable so you can easily control your temperature; if you get too warm while hiking, you will sweat and get very cold while resting. In windy areas fleeces are useless without a windproof shell, so if you find yourself getting cold while wearing a lot of layers, a good first step is to put on your rain jacket. Finally, you don't need a change of clothing for each day. However, you will need certain backups (an extra pair of gloves or socks for instance).
- **Gloves:** You will need something warmer than the typical gloves you wear around the city. If your hands tend to get cold easily, big windproof mittens would be a good choice.
- **Boots:** You should bring boots that you've hiked in before (or at least walked in to break them in); you don't want to get blisters from hiking in new boots. They must be sturdy and waterproof. Summer boots (with mesh holes) will make your feet very cold and are not recommended. Bring your boots to your pre-trip meeting and your trip leaders will check them out.
- Line the inside of your pack with a big plastic trash bag, and then pack your stuff inside that. That way it will stay dry and you will be much happier if it rains. You can also put a plastic bag inside your sleeping bag stuff sack to make sure it stays dry.
- Be sure to talk to your trip leader about any special gear you'll need, and how to tailor your gear choices based on weather and location. This is just a general list to give you an idea of what you'll need.
- If you're going on an official HOC trip you don't need to worry about the group gear section; your trip leaders will handle it.

The Cabin

The cabin has running water, electricity, and heat. There are no showers, and no beds – we sleep on the floor in the loft. The kitchen is well equipped with a refrigerator, two stoves, a microwave, and plates and silverware. There is an outhouse in the back.

Unlike many extended trips, you don't need to worry about packing super light since we can leave stuff in the cabin. This doesn't mean you should bring your rock collection, calligraphy set, etc., but it does mean you should bring enough to ensure that you will be warm and happy!