



Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters • 75 Mae Johnson Way Andrews NC 28901 • (828) 321-2210

What to Expect When Taking You're Group Skiing with SWO

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We ski/snowboard at Cataloochee Ski Area which is approximately 70 miles (1 hour and 15 minute) drive from Snowbird.

On your ski day, you will have First Lunch at 12:00 pm. Groups must provide their own transportation to Cataloochee. Your group should be dressed for skiing, and **in your vehicles no later than 12:45**. We will be heading off campus by caravan to the ski resort at that time. Please follow the caravan or the written directions below. GPS will ***not*** take you to the ski resort. Snowbird will have a van leading the way as well as a van following behind. The entire drive is on paved roads. The majority of the drive is on a state-maintained highway. The last 15 minutes of the drive will be going up the mountain to the ski resort. This is a road that large buses including charter buses can go up & down.

Once we arrive at Cataloochee, we will park in spaces reserved for SWO. These spaces will be right beside the group lodge. The SWO staff assigned to your group will meet you by your vehicle. This is the best time to send students needing to use the restrooms or those requiring a ski bib & jacket* rental over to the main lodge to do so. A SWO staff member can show them the way!

Your SWO staff will also have each person's ski/snowboard **rental form & lift ticket**. Skiers & Snowboarders will need to carry their rental form throughout the entire rental process. It is important that lift tickets be placed on the outermost layer like a ski jacket or bib. SWO Staff will show your group how to properly attach the lift ticket. The ticket must be visible at all times and easily scanned by the Cataloochee staff.

Your SWO staff will then help your group go efficiently through the process of collecting ski/snowboarding boots as well as skis & ski poles or a snowboard! Our goal is to have you on the slopes as quickly as possible. PLEASE keep in mind that lines may get long, but our staff will be ready to help you and your students through the entire process. We arrive at Cataloochee earlier than our ski session to allow time to navigate the rental process. Our ski session will begin at 4 pm.

If you have students who have signed up for ski/snowboarding school** your SWO staff will hand them a ticket that they will need to take to ski/snowboarding school. Ski/snowboarding school will meet right outside the group lodge at 4 pm.

Dinner will be provided by SWO in the group lodge at 6 pm. The main lodge also has a cafeteria if students would like to walk over to purchase additional snacks.

Cataloochee closes its slopes at 10 pm. Groups can stay all the way up until 10 pm! If your group is ready to depart before the slopes close that is perfectly fine. Groups may return to Snowbird at any time.

*Ski Bibs & a Jacket can be rented for \$10 each. ** Ski/ Snowboarding School can not be refunded if the class is missed.

If you have any questions please ask a SWO staff member!

Directions To Cataloochee Ski Area

(Do **NOT** follow GPS directions!)

- Turn right onto Pisgah Road. Continue on Pisgah Road for 1.4 miles. At the bottom of Pisgah Rd go straight across Junaluska Road then turn right onto US-19 BUSINESS.
- Continue straight for approximately 60 miles.
- Take exit 102B (Hwy 276) and continue straight for 3 miles until you come to a three-way intersection. Turn left onto Hwy 19.
- Stay on Hwy 19 all the way into Maggie Valley. (approx. 8 miles)
- You will see a large parking lot on your right with a big sign that says the “Ghost Town” theme park. Turn into this parking lot, and follow the road to the right that leads up the mountain.
- Continue straight for 4 miles and you will come to Cataloochee Ski Area. Parking spaces are reserved for SWO at the very top by the group lodge.

Going back to Snowbird

It is important to down-shift your vehicle as you are going down the mountain from Cataloochee, as you do **NOT want to ride your brakes. Do **NOT** be afraid to drive in 1st or 2nd gear(or low gear). Please allow space between you & the car in front of you **before** you start the ride back down the mountain.

- At the bottom of the mountain turn left (on Hwy 19). Continue for approximately 8 miles until you come back to the three-way intersection, and take right to turn back onto Hwy 276.
- Continue straight for approximately 3 miles. Then take the exit on the right towards Sylva to merge onto US-23 S/US-74 W.
- Continue straight on US- 74 West towards Andrews for approximately 60 miles. Exit onto Business 19 (left)
- Turn left on Pisgah Road. Continue on Pisgah Road for 1.6 miles
- Turn left on McClelland Creek Road, and then Snowbird is on the left!