



Auckland Tramping Club

ATC SnowSports Lodge

Information for New Guests

As a first time guest, there are a few things you need to know to make your stay a pleasant and memorable one.

Getting There

You reach “**ATC SnowSports Lodge**” 250m along an access track starting just to the right of Tokoroa Hut on the lower western side of **Bruce Road (Top o’ the Bruce)**. The track curves to the left as it climbs a 10m rise beyond Tokoroa Hut, then the ATC path diverges to the right at a junction marked with a pole and an ATC sign (but this may be obscured by snow). Follow this track a further 150m west to ATC SnowSports Lodge.

Arrive during daylight if possible, as the track can sometimes be difficult to find at night, but be prepared with a good torch regardless. It will be easier to carry most of your gear in a back pack.

The Lodge

ATC SnowSports Lodge sleeps 32 people in 7 bunkrooms. Separate men’s and women’s bathrooms are provided. A drying room just off the wet area is available for drying wet clothing and footwear.

The Lodge is catered (inclusive of breakfast, lunch and dinner) – check our website for what is and isn’t provided. All cooking and Lodge duties are communal, so you will be rostered tasks during your stay. All guests are responsible for cleaning their own bunkroom and assisting with the safe running of the Lodge.

- **When leaving the Lodge for the day, please remember to write your names and intentions for the day on the notice board located near the Lodge exit.**

You will find the lifts and ticket office about 10 minutes easy walk from the Lodge. Ski and Snowboard hire is situated at the “Top o’ the Bruce”. During good snow it is possible to ski or snowboard back to the Lodge from the ski fields – the best way is down between the other lodges.

ATC SnowSports Lodge Phone: (07) 892 3800

Bunkrooms:

- Bunks are not allocated, so be early if you require a room for a larger group.
- Bring a pillowcase and preferably a sleeping bag. Using a backpack will be much easier than carrying bags.
- When leaving the Lodge, please stand mattresses up to air, and vacuum and clean your room. Do not leave it untidy for the next guest.
- **Please do not dry clothing on the heaters in the bunkrooms, as this constitutes an extreme fire risk.**

Motoring Tips:

- Be sure your cooling system contains at least 50% anti-freeze. Refer to the owners’ manual for your vehicle for the correct ratios for sub-zero temperatures.
- Always carry chains. Make sure they suit your vehicle and you are well practiced with fitting them before you go to the mountain. There is a hire/fitting service available during daylight hours, and usually on Friday nights. Even if the road is open when you get to the mountain, it is recommended that you still hire chains as conditions can change in an instant and you may otherwise be stranded.
- Ensure your fuel is topped up in case roads are closed and you need to turn back. Depending on which direction you are travelling from, Turangi and Taumarunui have 24 hour service stations.
- When travelling to the mountain, be very aware of road conditions. **Beware of black ice!** Travelling from Taumarunui, roads are prone to black ice, particularly in the mornings and in shaded sections. All roads around the central plateau should be treated with utmost caution at all times.
- There is limited overnight parking at Whakapapa, and you may need to unload gear and passengers near the track and then park further down the road. Remember that day parks close at 5pm and remaining vehicles will be towed away. Gates are chained at night.



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Parking Precautions:

- Park in gear with the handbrake *off*. Leaving the handbrake off will stop brake pads sticking to the metal brake drum. Placing a wedge or block of wood in front of your wheels is also recommended.
- Flip your wipers away from the glass to avoid sticking and damaging the blades, or burning out your wiper motor.
- Take care de-icing your windscreen and windows. Use lukewarm water (not hot) if you can, or a can or two of de-icing spray (obtainable from some service centres). A domestic freezer scraper is a good thing to keep in your pack (not locked in the car). Take care that door locks are not frozen when unlocking your vehicle.
- If your engine starts but stops or runs rough, stop and check the exhaust pipe is not plugged with snow. Make sure aerials are down to avoid being damaged by snow or wind.
- **Caution.** If parked in the overnight areas beside the road, avoid parking too close to the roadway where you run the risk of being covered in snow and subsequently damaged by road clearing machines.

Safety and Care of the Lodge:

- Heaters in the bunkrooms, bathrooms, wet area and lounge should be used conservatively and always turned off when rooms are not occupied.
 - **All heaters, including the drying room, must be off when the Lodge is not occupied.**
 - **Check heaters in the lounge, bathrooms, and wet area are off before retiring for the night.**
- Ensure the drying room heater is only used as needed. Check drying items regularly.
- Conserve water where possible. Don't leave taps running, limit showers, etc.
- Please use the hand hygiene facilities provided.

What to Bring to the Lodge:

- Torch
- Pillowslip and sleeping bag (recommended) or duvet and sheets.
- Toiletries and towel.
- Light clothing and footwear for wearing inside.
- For outside, wear many thin insulating layers with windproof and waterproof outer layers.
- A pair of sturdy boots (not ski boots) suitable for wearing in snow.
- Hats, gloves, sunglasses or goggles and sunscreen.
- Ski or snowboard gear (or hire at the "Top o the Bruce").
- BYO snacks and refreshments for out on the mountain or to go with dinner.
- CDs, iPods etc, or a good book. There is a radio, but no TV. We do have table tennis and games.

Transport of Food for "Catered" Stays:

- Club volunteers stock the Lodge with meat, non-perishable food, and general Lodge consumables at least twice a year. Perishable foods, however, need to be taken to the Lodge by the occupants on a weekly basis. This includes vegetables, milk, bread, etc.
- The ATC SnowSports Lodge Catering Officer will make contact some days prior to your departure to the mountain to organise transport of this food. It is expected that each party will take some food to the Lodge. Where it is inconvenient to collect the food from the Catering Officer prior to departure it may be necessary to purchase food, as directed by the Catering Officer, and claim a refund for expenses (receipts are required).

Cancellation Policy:

- Notify the booking officer no later than 48 hours before trip departure. A full refund will automatically follow.
- Applications for refunds for later cancellations must be made in writing to the committee within 7 days. They will only be given in certain circumstances at the discretion of the committee.
- Once the period of Lodge occupancy has started, there will be no refunds made for early departure, unless the Lodge has had to be evacuated.

Refer to the **Contact Us** page at www.aucktramping.org.nz for current Officer contact numbers.

Booking Officer: snowsports@aucktramping.org.nz

Postal: Auckland Tramping Club

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