

**PETER AMANN MOUNTAIN GUIDING**

**BOX 1495 JASPER ALBERTA CANADA T0E 1E0 780-852-3237**



**Let's get ready to go!**

As a guide I have done many trips over the years on to the Wapta Icefields. This is a spectacular place to visit and with the use of the Alpine Club's huts it makes the trip that much more enjoyable. This is both an instructional course as well as a guided skiing adventure. We will spend 3 nights at the huts gradually heading north to the Peyto hut. En route we will cover the basic glacier travel skills and just generally have a great time!

**The Camp**

The camp will begin with an evening meeting at the Canadian Alpine Centre at Lake Louise. On Thursday morning, we will drive north to the trailhead at Bow Lake and trek to the recently renovated Bow Hut on the Wapta Icefield. After two nights at Bow, the group will move to the Peter and Catharine Whyte (Peyto) Hut, exiting the Wapta Icefield via the Peyto Glacier on Sunday.

The objective of the camp is to help participants learn more about ski mountaineering and improve their skills - while having fun and looking for adventure, we will focus on:

- Terrain evaluation
- Route planning and selection
- Glacier travel and navigation
- Crevasse rescue systems
- Weather evaluation
- Avalanche Rescue techniques
- Map and compass/navigation skills

We certainly hope to climb some peaks during the 4 days! Weather can be unpredictable, and conditions can quickly change. You will however get to experience 4 days in the mountains and learn about the ageless art of ski mountaineering.

**The Agenda**

- ✓ We meet the evening before the trip to go over gear
- ✓ (Day 1) Shuttle vehicles, pack up and head in to Bow Hut, some basic transceiver practice unpack, work on knots, maybe go for a ski
- ✓ (Day 2) Work on some skills, ski up a peak in the area
- ✓ (Day 3) Pack and move to Peyto hut, climb a peak en route if possible. Work on some navigating and more glacier travel skills.
- ✓ (Day 4) ski out the Peyto glacier to Peyto parking, or ski back out via Bow Hut, depending on conditions

**Who is this trip for?**

This is a great introductory trip for the new ski mountaineer, or for a strong skier wishing to learn the basic skills of glacier travel. The trip will involve skiing with a pack up to 40lbs, and maybe in variable conditions.

You should be a strong skier, comfortable on black diamond runs in a ski area setting. It is important that you be of a good fitness level.

**Accommodation and Meals**

The first night accommodation is at the Hostel in Lake Louise.

The Alpine Club of Canada and the Southern Alberta Hostelling Association own the Canadian Alpine Center jointly. It has 150 beds; full self serve kitchen facilities, and features the Bill Peyto Café (which is well known for its great food), storage lockers, and a gorgeous living room to relax in.

- ✓ The first night's stay at the Canadian Alpine Centre is included in your camp fee.
- ✓ All huts fees are prepaid.
- ✓ All meals during the course will be included.
- ✓ If staying the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> day in Lake Louise, you are responsible for your own bookings and meals.

If you require accommodations when the camp is over, please contact (403) 522-2200 or call toll free at 1-866-762-4122 to make arrangements.

### **Meeting Place**

Once booked and having paid a deposit, we will try and arrange some car-pooling amongst the participants. A list can be circulated if you require transportation.

1. We will meet the evening prior to the course to get organized and do an equipment check. We will also divide up any group gear and food for the hike into Bow hut.
2. A plan will be made for a starting time next morning.
3. We will have breakfast at the hostel (not included in cost) and drive about a ½ hour to the trailhead. Vehicles will be used to shuttle us, and left at Bow Lake or Peyto pullout.

**If you have valuables in the car please rent a locker at the hostel till you return!**

### **Equipment**

*The equipment list should be carefully reviewed when packing for the trip.*

Please do not hesitate to me if you have any questions at all about your equipment. [pamann@incentre.net](mailto:pamann@incentre.net) or 780 8523237

Keep your pack light! There will be some group gear, and as well you will have the technical gear. If in doubt drop me a note, we will get your weight down.

Check that all your equipment is in good working order and fits properly prior to arriving at camp. If you have borrowed or rented gear it is particularly important to invest some time making sure that it is right for you. Be sure you understand *how* your equipment works.

Broken or unsuitable equipment or blisters can potentially ruin your trip!

If you are buying new boots before the trip, you should do some day tours in them in advance to break them in. Please also bring a repair kit that is specific to your gear. Drop us a note if you have any questions

Participants should be prepared for all types of weather! (Hot, cold, whiteout, blizzards etc.) The equipment list should be used as a good guideline.

If you require rental equipment here are a few options

Gravity Gear in Jasper: 780 852-3155

Gear up (in Canmore: (403) 678-1636

In Calgary (Uof Calgary) (403) 220-5038 [www.ucalgary.ca/opc](http://www.ucalgary.ca/opc)

### **Park Passes**

You will need a vehicle pass to get into the national parks. This is not included in the trip package.

Overnight backcountry passes are required even when using huts. These are included in the cost of the trip.

### **Map Sheets**

*Touring the Wapta Icefields*, by Murray Toft. (Nice map! Waterproof paper, a great keepsake.)

Or:

We can provide a map of the area as well. (Please request one!)

(This will be a printed one off a computer)

## **Wapta Adventure**

### **Equipment List**

#### **Ski Gear**

- Skis, boots, poles – telemark, randonée gear or a split snowboard
- Wax (for dry snow conditions)
- Skins (in good repair, to fit skis)
- Personal small ski repair kit (with spare parts)
- Shovel
- Avalanche Probe
- Avalanche transceiver (457 khz, with new batteries and a spare set)

#### **Clothing**

- Light weight polypro top and bottom
- Medium weight fleece pants
- Warm fleece jacket
- Windproof/waterproof shell layer (Gore-Tex) jacket and pants
- Down jacket or vest
- Warm toque
- Neck tube or scarf
- Sun hat with neck and ear protection
- Warm mitts with Gore-Tex shells
- Thin glove liners
- Socks and extras
- Gaiters
- Lightweight comfortable hut clothes
- Hut booties/shoes (light)

#### **Personal Equipment**

- Day pack (30-40L)
- Headlamp
- Water bottle/Thermos
- Lighter (Bic type)
- Sunglasses/ski goggles
- Small toilet kit and towel
- Personal first aid kit/blister kit, personal medications
- Compass, with declination adjustment
- Seat harness with chest sling or body harness
- One length of nylon webbing – 3 meters (10') long, 1" thickness.
- One Prusik cord 5 meters (16') long, 7 mm diameter
- One Prusik cord 1.5 meters (5') long, 7 mm diameter
- 2 locking carabiner (one should be a large pear shaped biner)
- Two small identical (non-locking) carabiners

(Gear is included in the price of the trip. If you have your own bring it. Please let us know what you will need at least a week prior to the course/trip)

#### **Optional Equipment**

- T-shirt / lightweight hut shoes
- Down jacket or vest (highly recommended)

- Earplugs (good for sleeping in noisy huts)
- Camera and film
- Map and compass / Altimeter / GPS
- Reading material/journal/pencil
- One ice screw, if you have one
- Personal amount of liquor / treats, if desired

We will supply all climbing ropes, group first aid and repair kit.

### **Renting?**

Please make sure that everything fits and is in good working order. This is why we will look at all the gear prior to the trip. There will be no time to change gear on the day of the trip. If you borrow it, find out how it works. Please make sure you do this as once we are on the glacier, there are no shops...

### **Booking Procedures**

#### **All course participants must read and sign a waiver**

Your spot is not confirmed until you have paid! We reserve the right to cancel trips if there are not enough participants, or we can also adjust the price if a private group is interested in booking the trip. Please contact us for these specific details.

**All deposits should be prepaid before the start of the course or arrangements should have been made to pay at the meeting place. There are exceptional occasions where it may be difficult to prepay due to time constrictions. Please contact us in advance. In most cases though, your place will not be confirmed unless you have paid the deposit. Courses will be cancelled if there is not a minimum enrolment.**

**In order that we meet your needs and those of others, we ask you to register at least 2 weeks prior to course commencement date. A deposit of one half the course fee is needed to ensure your place.**

Peter Amann Mountain Guiding and Schools  
Box 1495  
Jasper, Alberta, Canada  
TOE 1E0  
780-852-3237  
[pamann@incentre.net](mailto:pamann@incentre.net)