Winter snowfall transforms Lassen Volcanic National Park into a vast playground for Nordic skiers and snowshoers. On the north side of the park, gentle terrain through dense pine forest offers excellent beginner and intermediate touring routes. Begin your winter adventure at the Loomis Plaza parking area.
Beginner Routes

Manzanita Lake Snowshoe Loop
This trail is not recommended for skiing.
Distance: 1.6 mile loop
Elevation Gain: None
Estimated Time: 1.5 hours
This unmarked trail skirts the shore of Manzanita Lake. The lake may appear to be frozen over; however, it is never safe to travel on the ice.

Manzanita Campground Loop
Distance: 1.5 mile loop
Elevation Gain: None
Estimated Time: 1.5 hours
Cross the footbridge by the Loomis Ranger Station, turn right and follow the road to the campground for approximately a quarter mile to where it turns to the right through a set of large rocks. The trail covers a half-mile loop through several sections of the campground.

In Case of Emergency, Dial 911
The closest emergency phone is near the restrooms in the Loomis Plaza. Please note that the ranger station is not staffed at all times.

Are You Ready for Winter Conditions?

Safety is Your Responsibility

- Water: Exercising in dry high-elevation air makes one particularly susceptible to dehydration
- Waterproof Gear: Always carry waterproof cold weather gear, even on sunny days
- Layers: Maintain an even temperature, as excessive perspiration can lead to hypothermia
- Map and Compass: Carry a topographic map and compass and know how to use them
**Intermediate Routes**

**Chaos Jumbles Area**  
**Distance, elevation gain and times vary**  
Head up the park road for approximately a half-mile to an open area of stunted trees. Veer to the right up toward Chaos Crags. Here the undulating topography slopes up into the bowl of the Crags. The terrain is easy to moderately difficult with excellent views at the higher elevations.

**Chaos Crags Trail**  
*This trail is not recommended for skiing.*  
**Distance:** 4 miles round-trip  
**Elevation Gain:** 850 feet  
**Estimated Time:** 3-4 hours  
Cross the footbridge by the Loomis Ranger Station, turn left and follow the road to the Chaos Crags Trailhead sign. Follow yellow tree markers as the trail climbs steeply up to a ridge. If you decide to descend to Crags Lake, beware of potential rock falls and high winds.

**Manzanita Creek**  
**Distance:** 7.5 miles round-trip  
**Elevation Gain:** 1,550 feet  
**Estimated Time:** 6 hours  
Cross the footbridge by the Loomis Ranger Station, turn right and follow the road to the far end of the campground to the Manzanita Creek trailhead sign. Follow the yellow tree markers on this mostly gradual climb to the headwaters of Manzanita Creek. The trail ends below Crescent Cliffs in a scenic horseshoe-shaped valley. Suitable snow camping sites are found along the upper portion; however there are several avalanche paths off of Loomis Peak. Select a route and campsite with caution.

**Nobles Emigrant Trail**  
**Distance:** 7 miles round-trip  
**Elevation Gain:** 400 feet  
**Estimated Time:** 3-4 hours  
The trail begins across the street from the Loomis parking area and skirts past Reflection Lake to join the historic Nobles Emigrant Trail. Follow the orange tree markers along the base of Table Mountain. The trail climbs over a flank of Table Mountain into a thick fir forest and rejoins the park road three miles east of the Loomis Plaza at Sunflower Flat. Return the way you came or via the park road to make a loop.
The Lassen Volcanic Highway opens to skiing and snowshoeing at the winter season highway closure. The route follows the snow-covered road, with several destinations along the way.

Destinations beyond the Crags Campground area are recommended for overnight trips only. Above Kings Creek, the terrain enters an area that is subject to extreme avalanche danger. Heavy and deep snow and steep terrain require advanced skiing and mountaineering skills. This area is not recommended for the novice skier or snow camper. The summit of the park highway climbs to 8,500 feet in elevation and provides spectacular views of the region. Allow a minimum of three days to cross the park.

**Crags Campground**
- Distance: 4.4 miles one way
- Elevation Gain: 200 feet
- Estimated Time: 3-4 hours

**Hot Rock**
- Distance: 7.7 miles one way
- Elevation Gain: 400 feet
- Estimated Time: Overnight

**Summit Lake**
- Distance: 12.2 miles one way
- Elevation Gain: 1,200 feet
- Estimated Time: Overnight

**Road Summit**
- Distance: 21.6 miles one way
- Elevation Gain: 2,700 feet
- Estimated Time: 2 days one-way

**Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center**
- Distance: 28 miles one way
- Elevation Gain: 2,700 feet
- Estimated Time: 3 days one-way