

SOME TRAIL OPTIONS

- **Glacier Point Road:** Because ski tracks are set by machine, this is the best trail for beginners or those wanting an easier ski. A skating lane is also provided. Go out as far as you like (Glacier Point itself is 10.5 miles, 16.9 km, one way), but remember, on the return trip the last few miles are uphill. Spectacular vistas of the Clark Range and large meadows for lunch stops make this trip even more enjoyable.
- **Old Glacier Point Road (3.3 mi., 5.3 km, one way to Bridalveil Creek Campground):** This trail follows the old road, traveling uphill approximately 1/3 mile (.5 km), then dropping down into the Bridalveil/Peregoy Meadow area. Although the grade is not extremely steep, it can be a challenging run in icy conditions. Connect with the “new” Glacier Point Road for a nice 6-mile (9.7 km) round trip.
- **Dewey Point via Meadows #18 (3.5 mi., 5.6 km, one way from Badger):** Follow the Glacier Point Road to the east end of Summit Meadow to start this trail. The trail winds through a series of meadows, continues on to some more difficult hills, and ends at a popular vista of Yosemite Valley. This trail is crowded on weekends and holidays, and can present quite difficult skiing in old snow or icy conditions. Not recommended for beginners after the first mile through the meadows.
- ◆ **Dewey Point via Ridge #14 (4 mi., 6.4 km, one way from Badger):** This trail starts off the Glacier Point Road to the west of Summit Meadow. This is a more challenging and difficult trail out to the valley vista mentioned above. It takes skiers along a winding up-and-down course among red fir and lodgepole pine forests.
- ◆ **Ostrander Lake (9-10.3 mi., 14.5-16.6 km, one way):** Nestled in a bowl below Horse Ridge at 8,600 feet (2,621 m) elevation, Ostrander Lake is a popular overnight destination (see “Facilities” section). Of the three main trails to the lake, Bridalveil Creek is the easiest (intermediate). Merced Crest is the hardest and very difficult to follow (expert skiers only!). Reservations are recommended for Ostrander Ski Hut and a wilderness permit is required.
- **Ghost Forest Loop (11.5 mi., 18.5 km, round trip from Badger):** Follow the Glacier Point Road to the Bridalveil Creek/Ostrander Lake trailhead (#21). Follow trail #21 across rolling terrain to the junction with the Ghost Forest Trail #19 (1.7 miles, 2.7 km). Two more miles of moderate skiing on trail #19 will bring you back to Bridalveil Campground, where you can take either the old or new Glacier Point Road back to Badger Pass.

Trail Rating Legend:

- **Easiest** ■ **More difficult** ◆ **Most difficult**

Glacier Point Road Winter Trails

Yosemite National Park

50¢



Skiers and snowshoers, please make and maintain separate, parallel trails. If you are walking, please stay off the ski trails. Footsteps create holes in the snow, which can make skiing difficult and create hazards.



BEFORE YOU START

Ski or snowshoe touring in Yosemite can be a magnificent experience, or it can be a disaster if certain simple preparations are ignored. Park rangers have assembled a set of suggestions which, when observed, can help ensure a safe trip even if you encounter stormy weather or unforeseen problems.

Plan your trip sensibly, keeping in mind your experience and physical condition. Remember that winter days are short and you may not be able to travel as far as you expect.

Before you leave on a trip, let someone know where you’re going and when you’ll return.

Keep track of others in your party.

Always carry a map and compass and know how to use them. Unless you’re an expert with map and compass, stay on trails, which are indicated by markers on trees. Consider carrying a GPS unit, if you know how to use one.

Get a weather forecast (209/372-0200)—then be prepared for the unexpected.

Even on short trips, carry proper gear and food for an unplanned bivouac. Always carry and drink plenty of water. If you are thirsty, you are already dehydrated.

Clothing and equipment suggestions: Wear wool, fleece, or polypropylene—a wool or synthetic hat is essential. These fabrics retain some warmth even when wet. Pack a waterproof jacket. Carry quick-energy food, water, waterproof matches, a flashlight, and protection from the sun.

If you become lost or must bivouac unexpectedly, THINK! Stop early to prepare for the night. Don’t thrash around or panic; save your energy. Build a fire, if possible. Avoid wind and insulate your body from snow. Drink warm liquids, if possible; eat often and huddle together. Stay dry!

Keep an eye on members of your party. Hypothermia can be recognized by unusually slow movements, unintelligible speech, and peculiar behavior. If a member of your party appears hypothermic, take quick action to keep him or her as warm as possible.

If you have informed someone of your expected return and are overdue, remember that help probably is on the way. Maintain the attitude that you can and will survive.

If someone in your party needs ranger assistance and you can safely ski out, go to the Badger Pass Ranger Station. At night, call 911 for emergency assistance from the telephone at the ski lodge.

KNOW THE RULES

Certain National Park Service regulations must be observed by winter backcountry users; these protect the park as well as visitors.

- For all overnight trips obtain a wilderness permit at Badger Pass ranger station. Self-registration is available when rangers are not available.
- Camp at least 1½ miles from Badger Pass.
- Camp no closer than 100 feet (30.5 m) to lakes, streams, and trails.
- To dispose of human waste, dig through snow and six inches into soil.
- Pack out all garbage, including toilet paper.
- Cutting tree limbs or pine boughs for shelter is not permitted.
- No pets permitted beyond plowed roads.
- No motorized vehicles are permitted.
- Skiers and snowshoers should make and maintain separate tracks.
- If skiing off trails in the Glacier Point area, be alert for power lines.
- No camping is permitted at Summit Meadow or the overlooks at Dewey and Glacier Points.

GETTING INTO FOCUS

Change is the way of nature. If you visit this area more than once or twice, you’ll encounter changes in the landscape and learn to recognize their subtleties. On one visit, you may find the red firs clothed in pale blue frost, wind-driven snow plastered to the ruddy trunks. Another time, they may glow a sun-lit green, chartreuse lichens clinging to each limb. Should you ski through the haunted ghost forest of dead lodgepole pines, they may seem even more ghostly when silhouetted against the silent white of a building storm. On another day your reward may be vistas of white Sierra peaks, brilliant under the bluest of skies.

FACILITIES

Toilet facilities are located at Summit Meadow, Bridalveil Creek Trailhead, Sentinel Dome parking area, Glacier Point, and Ostrander Lake. Bunks are available for overnight use at the Ostrander Lake Ski Hut, and reservations are recommended. You can reserve a spot by writing or calling Yosemite Conservancy, P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318, 209/372-0740. The \$20.00 charge per person, per night must be paid in advance.

GLACIER POINT ROAD WINTER TRAILS

Mileage scale



- Plowed road
- Groomed track/ski trail
- Marked ski trail (ungroomed)
- Trail numbers (keyed to trailhead markers)
- Downhill direction
- Structure
- Telephone
- Restroom

Contour interval = 100 feet (30.5 m)

Ski Trail Rating:*

- Easiest**
- More difficult**
- Most difficult**

*Trail ratings are based upon ideal snow conditions and may change radically due to changes in weather or snow conditions.

Skiers and snowshoers, please make and maintain separate, parallel trails.

Register at Badger Pass Ranger Station for overnight trips;

DISTANCES FROM BADGER (ONE WAY)

Glacier Point Road:

Summit Meadow	1.0 miles	1.6 km
Bridalveil Campground.....	2.8 miles	4.5 km
Bridalveil Creek	3.3 miles	5.3 km
Ostrander Trailheads	4.1-4.5 miles	6.6-7.2 km
Clark Range View	5.7 miles	9.2 km
Sentinel Dome	9.2 miles	14.8 km
Glacier Point	10.5 miles	16.9 km

Dewey Point:

via No. 18 Meadow Trail	3.5 miles	5.6 km
via No. 14 Ridge Trail	4.0 miles	6.4 km

Ostrander Lake:

No. 15 Horizon Ridge.....	9.0 miles	14.5 km
No. 16 Merced Crest.....	9.7 miles	15.6 km
No. 19/21 Bridalveil Creek.....	10.3 miles	16.6 km
Snowshoe Trail (round trip)	3.0 miles	4.8 km

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