

SPLORE TOUR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

THE SHORT VERSION

The SPLORE Tour is designed for people with excellent to intermediate alpine (downhill), telemark or split snowboard (splitboard) skills. The goal is to ski some of Utah's "greatest snow on earth™," but sometimes you have to ski through less than perfect snow to get there. Backcountry travel is a serious endeavor that demands good physical fitness.

THE LONGER VERSION

Skiers registering for the SPLORE Tour should preferably have previous ski touring experience. You will need to be in good physical condition and should be familiar with basic ski touring techniques and equipment. You need to feel comfortable skiing in a variety of snow conditions including firm snow or ice, powder snow, crust, and wind blown snow. While the skiing is generally very good in the Wasatch, we always encounter a wide variety of conditions based on variability in altitude and aspect. Although there are many non-technical ski tours in the Wasatch, please prepare for and expect a solid physical experience.

Where practical, we ask that participants be familiar with the use and application of avalanche beacon technology. While not a prerequisite for skiing with a professional guide, we also recommend that all backcountry skiers have completed at least an AIARE level 1 Avalanche Course.

SPLORE Tour Gear list

The list below reflects all of the items you will need for this tour. If you do not own an avalanche beacon, probes and shovel, please contact us and we will make best efforts to supply you. Having a lightweight pack is essential to allowing us to travel efficiently each day and to ski in sometimes challenging terrain while wearing a pack. Even though scheduled ski tours will be day-trips, it will take careful planning to keep pack light.

Please study this list carefully and please ask for evaluation of your current equipment if needed.

Ski Gear

- **Alpine Touring (Randonnée) or Telemark Skis or split snowboard (Splitboard)**
- **Ski Brakes**
- **Ski Crampons (optional)**
- **Climbing Skins**
- **Ski Poles**
- **Avalanche Beacon 457 kHz***
- **Avalanche Probe***
- **Shovel***
- **Ski Pack (around 30-40 liters):** Your pack should have an easy way to attach skis.

***PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU DO NOT OWN THESE ITEMS**

Climbing Gear (For Optional Ski Mountaineering Day-Trip)

- **Ice Axe:** Short and light. We use 50 cm axes with no straps. E.g., Black Diamond Venom
- **Boot Crampons:** This is one of the few cases where a lightweight aluminum pair of crampons is the ticket. Example Salewa 12P Alunal Combi Crampon. Be sure they are compatible with your ski boots.
- **Climbing Harness:** Lightweight with adjustable leg loops & a belay loop. i.e. Petzl Adjama
- **Locking Carabiner:** Bring a single locking carabiner. i.e. Petzl Attaché.

Lodge Gear (For Loft-Style Accommodations)

- **Sleeping bag** (warm weather is fine)
- **Bottom sheet (optional)**
- **Inflatable pillow (optional)**
- **Bath towel**
- **Ear plugs**
- **Flip Flops or similar lodge footwear**

Upper Body Clothing

- **Synthetic Sports Bra/Top**
- **Synthetic Long Underwear Top** (E.g., Patagonia Capilene 2 Zip Neck)
- **Light Fleece Shirt** (E.g., Patagonia R1 Hoody or R1 Flash Pullover)
- **Insulating Jacket:** Fleece, Soft Shell, or other synthetic jacket.
- **Hard Shell Jacket:** As always go for lightweight. (E.g., Patagonia Jetstream Jacket)
- **Puffy Jacket:** Lightweight Down or synthetic. (E.g., Patagonia Micro Puff Hooded Jacket)

Lower Body Clothing

- **Synthetic Underwear**
- **Synthetic Long Underwear Bottoms (optional)** (E.g., Patagonia Capilene 2)
- **Synthetic Climbing Pant:** Our guides wear the Patagonia Super Guide Pant. These are synthetic pants with a bit of wind resistance and have a built in gaiter/cuff that works well enough with ski boots to allow you to leave your gaiters at home.
- **Gore-tex or Similar Pants:** Lightweight with full side-zips.

Head, Hands, and Feet

- **Warm Hat**
- **Neck Gaiter or Buff**
- **Ski Goggles**
- **Light gloves** (E.g., Patagonia Work Glove)
- **Shelled Ski Gloves:** i.e. Patagonia White Smoke Gloves
- **AT, Telemark or Splitboard boots:** The most comfortable set up will be a boot with a Thermofit type liner and a custom foot bed.
- **2 pairs Light to Mid weight Ski sock**
- **2 pairs Liner Socks (optional)**

Other Items to Consider

- **Small Headlamp** (E.g., Petzl Zipka)

- **Hydration System:** A good combo here is a 1-liter bottle and a 16 oz thermos.
- **Snack/nutrition:** Feel free to supplement our packed lunches with your favorites
- **Voile type ski strap:** Make sure this is long enough to fit around your fat skis and poles.
- **Field Repair Kit:** Small kit specific to your bindings (E.g., spare cable for telemark bindings)
- **Altimeter Watch or Standard Watch with Alarm**
- **Small Camera (Optional):** Rigged on the outside of your pack
- **Batteries:** Spare set for headlamp, beacon, camera etc.
- **Blister Kit:** Should include small amount of moleskin and duct tape, etc.

Don't Forget Sun Protection

- **Sunscreen:** 2 x 1 oz tubes with high SPF factor (30 or higher)
- **Lip Balm w/ sunscreen:** SPF 15 or higher
- **Baseball Cap (or similar headwear)**
- **Sunglasses:** also consider bringing a spare pair

Please Don't Forget Your Toiletries and Meds !