



## **Summary - Ski/Splitboard Programs**

- Elevation range: 3,500ft-8,000ft.
- Elevation gain: 1,500 - 3,000 ft daily
- Travel distances: 3-5 miles daily
- Experience and competency on skis or snowboard with ~30lb pack is required

## **Course Location** Mazama, WA

We thank our partners at North Cascade Heli and North Cascades Mountain Guides for helping us offer this unique AIARE program.

This course will be based out of Mazama and NCH's Barron Yurt. The yurt is accessed via helicopter for a portion of the course. Additional field access will be on foot and on snowmachines.

Base tuition is \$2,475. Snowmobile and helicopter access, as well as lodging and food for three nights at the yurt are included for an additional \$1,425. Total tuition for this course is \$3,900.

## **Classroom and Field Sessions**

On Day 1, 2, and 6, the classroom will be at North Cascades Mountain Guides offices. All other days will be based out of the Barron Yurt and it will be utilized as the classroom. Internet will not be available at the yurt, although computers can be used offline. Field sessions will take place originating from the yurt.

Participants will receive specific classroom and trailhead location information from their Trainers prior to the first day of class.

## **Environment**

Weather can be highly variable from sunshine to snow and/or rain and temperatures can be sub-zero degrees Fahrenheit. Because of the environmental factors, you must be able to practice self-care that minimizes the possibility of hypothermia, frostbite, and non-freezing cold injury. In addition, note the typical elevation bands on this course, and plan and prepare appropriately, such as arriving early for extra acclimatization, if necessary.

## Terrain

Travel requires moving in mountainous terrain and variable snow conditions, both uphill and downhill on skis (AT or telemark) or splitboards efficiently by ascending 900-1200 ft/hour. Terrain and snow conditions vary and may require adaptation. Please come prepared to be flexible and navigate variable conditions, particularly on early-season courses.

## Lodging and Food

Lodging and food will be included for the three nights spent at the yurt. A form with dietary restrictions will be distributed to students after enrollment. Lodging and food for the remaining two nights will be the student's responsibility. There are several lodging options and grocery stores in the Mazama area.

## Equipment

Participating on an AIARE course requires modern, well-maintained backcountry and rescue gear. Bringing old, or marginally functioning gear, is a detriment to the learning environment and could negatively affect the safety of the group. Please review the equipment list below for more details:

- [AIARE Course Equipment List](#)

*This course relies on riding in helicopters and on snowmobiles. You will receive safety briefings and operation instructions and will be required to engage with both forms of mechanized support to successfully complete this course.*

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<li><a href="https://avtraining.org/equipment-list" target="\_blank">AIARE Course Equipment List</a></li>

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