

NORDIC SKIING



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About this activity

Nordic skiing is Jackson Hole's best kept secret. With over 200 miles of groomed trails, and countless untracked landscapes, cross country skiing, as it's more commonly known, is just another amazing compliment to your winter trip. Accessible to all ability levels, it's the perfect way to get outside, explore nature and enjoy the snow in solitude. Whether you're looking for a beginner ski along a tranquil snow-covered meadow or an aggressive workout on a groomed track, the opportunities are endless. "There's so much wilderness you can explore," says Nancy Leon, editor of JH Nordic, the online hub for everything nordic in the valley.

Things might look a little different this year, so here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Plan ahead to ensure availability for your guided tour or rental.
- Having a car will help you get to different trailheads or sign up for a guided lesson that includes transportation.

- Indoor services at nordic centers and rental shops may be limited, so call ahead for information and prepare to spend more time outdoors.
- Wear warm clothes, bring a mask and make sure to dress in layers.

There are a few different ways to get on a pair of cross country skis and hit the trail, each comes with its own unique way to escape the crowds and get into nature. For the beginner or someone looking to build on their technique, a lesson with an experienced guide is the best place to start. You can choose to stay at a nordic center with groomed trails like Teton Pines or head into Grand Teton National Park where you'll not only learn how to ski, but about the natural ecology with Jackson Hole Eco Tours.

If you're looking for more flexibility or want to try it on your own, plan a DIY adventure. Whether you have your own skis or rent from a local ski shop be sure to grab a trail map, ask the shop about trail conditions and visit JHNordic.com for trip reports, guides and more.

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STAY WILD.



By its nature, nordic skiing is a socially distanced outdoor activity. But there are still precautions our local businesses are taking to keep our community, and you, safe as well as things you can do to recreate responsibly.

- Remember to stay 6 feet away from other parties, think the length of a ski pole.
- Wear a mask in case of any close encounters where you cannot maintain social distance. The CDC does not recommend neck gators or buffs for full protection against COVID-19. Dry, double layered face coverings are recommended. Bring an extra in case one gets wet.
- Group sizes for lessons may be limited - look into private lessons for just your group.
- While renting, ensure that gear is being sanitized in accordance with CDC guidelines.