



## Come Explore Our Backyard This Winter



Once in awhile, it is important to take a few steps back, slow down and contemplate life. When you slow things down, it really shows you what is important. It is time for travellers to get back into the groove again and feel more balanced from spending time in nature. 2020 has been a challenging year and trip to the Rockies will keep your mental and physical health in check.



Past winter seasons welcomed adventurers from around the world. This winter, more Canadian travellers are booking trips to explore the backcountry. Canadian wanderlust has been popular and locals are enthusiastic and excited to become tourists in their own backyard.

The choice of being able to trek across the country is not an option as long as the borders remain closed. Canadians love to travel and have no fear of cooler temperatures. Many are ready to embrace the idea of an active winter vacation. Ski shops across Canada have reported an increased demand for winter sports gear. In particular, ski touring gear sales are soaring. With ski touring, there is pride in being able to skin up a mountaintop to earn your turns. Touring is an excellent choice for Canadians wanting to enjoy the outdoors and stay active in the colder months. It is also a thrill to look back and see your own perfect ski lines!



## Ski Touring & Snowshoeing in the Wild B.C. Backcountry



Ski resort visitors naturally transition to ski touring because of the desire to access more powder and a whole new world of skiing. There have been more inquiries from resort skiers wanting to explore the wild backcountry. This winter feels like the perfect opportunity to try a new sport and escape the crowded resorts. Consider a trip to Purcell Mountain Lodge or to one of the other helicopter access remote backcountry lodges in British Columbia. Go to [www.backcountrylodgesofbc.com](http://www.backcountrylodgesofbc.com) to learn more about our BLBCA family.

If you are not a skier – join us in the Rockies for guided snowshoeing. Snowshoeing is a leisure activity and great way to connect with nature. The movement is a low impact activity and best of all no experience is necessary. Reap the priceless benefits of mountain air and the stillness of nature. Take a walk this winter on the wild side, step by snowy step. You will be amazed by how far your own two feet will take you.



**CANADA**   
**KEEP EXPLORING**



### Festive Holiday Tours Are Starting Soon

**December 14 to December 18**  
**December 18 to December 21**  
**December 21 to December 24**  
**December 24 to December 27**  
**December 27 to December 31**

There is no need to wait to make your travel plans. Christmas is around the corner. Discover a winter wonderland high up in the Purcell Mountains with breathtaking winter scenery, fun-filled days and a warm fireplace to snuggle up to after an adventurous day of play. **Opening tour is December 14.**

## Welcome New Canadian Friends to Come Explore Local



Our family are thankful for our returning loyal guests. Thanks for coming back to visit this winter!

For guests still thinking about exploring the Purcell Mountains, check out our Trip Advisor reviews to learn more about what customers are saying about our programs, chalet, main lodge, amenities, accommodations and

meal service. The customer reviews also have feedback about our COVID-19 safety protocols and customer care. If you have not visited the lodge before, we welcome you to reach out anytime with questions. Email [info@purcellmountainlodge.com](mailto:info@purcellmountainlodge.com) or call 1 888 767 8989.

The global health crisis have guests wanting to “wait and see”. Our world is constantly evolving, but we do not want anyone to miss out on joining us. We encourage you to connect early and book your ski vacation now. There is limited space for winter 2020/21 in our main lodge and private chalet. Guided and catered tours will be running at 50% capacity. Our COVID-19 safety measures have been in place since operating over the summer. This winter, we look forward to offering the same unique mountain getaway as before with the health and safety of our staff and guests as the top priority.



We are proud to be a backcountry lodge for everyone to enjoy! Our winter family are excited for the season ahead and look forward to meeting new friends soon. Winter staff training will be in December to review the COVID-19 protocols and programs. Our professional ACMG guides and crew will be ready to welcome guests for holiday tours starting in December.

## Canada & United States Border Closure Update

We are looking forward to what may be an all-Canadian season. The United States and Canada border will remain closed till November 21, 2020 or potentially longer. The saying goes “Losing is sometimes winning – Sripada”. Although we are disappointed to not be able to welcome international travellers, we are thankful to continue to be able to welcome Canadians to explore locally. To our international guests, we are sending virtual hugs your way. We hope you are staying safe. We look forward to seeing you back in your mountain home when the time is right.



### **Experienced Self Guided Groups Welcome to Book Out Purcell Lodge**

If your group has visited other B.C. backcountry lodges but has yet to check out Purcell Mountain Lodge. Check us off your bucket list this winter.

### **Fly in with Your Cohort - Self-guided Guests Welcome**

Come ski in our “island in the sky” this winter. We cannot predict what Mother Nature will bring but we can promise deep snowpack, powder and all the creature comforts of home. A self-guided stay requires preparation and knowledge prior to your visit. It is essential for guests to know before you go. Visiting the backcountry of the Rocky Mountains means your group is assuming all risks and potential hazards in the high alpine.

*Call 1 888 767 8989 for the best group rates for a stay in the luxurious main lodge.*

It is recommended that self-guided groups review one or all of the following resources:

**ACMG Planning Brochures** <https://acmg.ca/03public/resources/pamphlets.aspx>

**Avalanche Canada Pre Trip Planning Tutorial** <https://www.avalanche.ca/tutorial>

In winter please check avalanche conditions at: <http://www.avalanche.ca>

### **No One is Protected Until Everyone is Protected**



**Our public health authorities are reminding Canadians to: “Put that curve back where it belongs.” and “Let’s bend it back”.**

COVID-19 transmission activity has recently resurged. Now is the time for our world to follow the advice of health officials recommended precautions that will keep our family and our community safe.

Canadians love snow activities and hope the cooler weather will motivate everyone to be more vigilant to stop the spread of COVID-19 so we can travel this winter.

## Create Your Own Backcountry Stay in the Private Chalet



Whether you are a family of novice skiers, or a group of friends looking for your next mountain rush, this is the place! The private chalet is warm and cheery after a day of adventure. What better way to end it off than by sitting with your cohort group, and exchanging stories about the days adventure. The chalet is the perfect spot for four to eight guests. Choose from catered or self catered meal service and guided or self guided.

We simply love the idea of Purcell Mountain Lodge being the first backcountry experience for your family. The backcountry experience is suited to all ability levels.

**Email [info@purcellmountainlodge.com](mailto:info@purcellmountainlodge.com) for a 100% custom made trip!  
Let us help you plan an unforgettable getaway**

### **Purcell Mountain Lodge 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**

Purcell Mountain Lodge will celebrate 31<sup>st</sup> years at the start of 2021. Passion, a positive attitude and a bit of magic have been the key factors to our success. The collective care of our family have been the driving force to running a successful business. Many hands have helped make the work fun and the load lighter. Our team have shared many special memories working together. They were happy moments filled with laughter, positive experiences and many successes. There were also some failures along the way that may have lead to a different success, we never even anticipated. Over the years, we have developed strong ties to the community of Golden. As we move into 2021, we will continue to cherish the relationships, and friendships in our circle. Thank you to the community of Golden for working with us to our business grow. Thank you to everyone in our Purcell Mountain Lodge family for making magic together over the years. Let's keep doing what we love together!



## Resort Skiing in Canada Starting in November



Thirteen Canadian ski resorts will be opening in November. British Columbia is well known for having world class skiing. Resort skiing offers a good warm up prior to your trip in to the B.C. backcountry. November is a perfect time to start rediscovering resort skiing in your own backyard. Things are going to feel and look different for resorts and please follow the guidelines posted. Get ready for an adrenaline rush and a opportunity to connect safely with your bubble.



Early winter predictions are looking like a La Nina winter ahead. Canadians need to be prepared to bundle up for a snowier and colder winter. Canadians love snow and cooler temperatures and more snow is a bonus and not a deal breaker. Fresh powder provides us more opportunity to get outside and explore the Rockies. The mountains and snow can provide us with many amazing memories and countless adventures.

The ideal conditions for skiing pillows is deep, fresh, soft powder. Guess what? The BC backcountry is the best place to find pillows on top of pillows! Come play in Pillowland.

**Thank You Purcell Friends!** We would like to thank all past guests for your support and patronage over the past 30 years. **In celebration of our anniversary we invite past visitors to come revisit the lodge at a reduced rate. Call 1 888 767 8989 to discuss your trip and special rate.**



## October Highlights



**October was a full agenda for our Purcell Mountain Lodge family. We kept busy with maintenance, renovations, inventory, cleaning, zoom meetings, emails and in person calls. Our shoulder season is an essential time for work to be completed.**

- Thank you to our shining stars: senior caretakers Derm, Thomas, Louise, Doug and Cathy for your help this month with the various tasks getting the lodge in top shape for the upcoming season.

- Caretakers were able to enjoy Cinch and her three cubs playing near the lodge. This was a memorable encounter not to be forgotten. Thomas was able to take a leap of faith and enjoy his second exhilarating flight off Copperstain Mountain



Photo left: Caretaker and Resident Geologist Thomas, Copperstain Mountain



Photo right: Cinch and cubs next to the A frame.

- Congratulations to our summer guide Jason Loree for achieving his ACMG full hiking guide certification! See you next summer.

- The Backcountry Lodge of B.C. Association hosted it's annual general meeting in October. Thank to BLBCA Executive Director Brad Harrison and the board members for the updates. Our BLBCA family of 33 lodges are ready to welcome guests this winter.

- The BLBCA is a sponsor of the best "Mountain Short Film" award at the Banff Mountain Film Festival. This virtual festival runs October 31-November 8.

## Purcell Mountain Lodge Winter Family Ready to Welcome Guests

Our family are looking forward to the same peace and serene connection to nature only a backcountry visit can deliver. We are staying safe and being careful to limit our connections prior to the start of the season. We are all together, in the same situation of wanting to be together in the backcountry to share a special experience but also wanted to be able to go home to loved ones with no risk of transmission.

### **Our Home is Your Home**

Our home has all the comforts of home. Amid the ongoing global pandemic we are confident to offer guests a remote, safe backcountry visit. Our COVID-19 safety plan starts at the hangar and follows strict protocols through to the end of the tour.

### **Ten Private Guest Rooms**

Rooms are double occupancy and have been simplified. Guests will be required to bring in their own sleeping bag to use as a blanket. Pillows, pillowcases and a fitted sheet will be supplied. Guests are asked to bring in their own towels to use for showers. Staff will not be entering the guest rooms. Eight rooms have access to a crank open window with a screen as well as a patio door. There is a vanity and hand-washing sink in each guest room.



### **Pre-assigned Guest Capacity & Guest Placement**

- Signs are posted throughout the lodge to indicate guest capacity in the living room, dining room, library, veranda and mudroom.
- Three upper floor washrooms and three showers will be pre-assigned.
- Meal service in the dining room will have assigned seating with place cards.

### **Additional Staff Safety Precautions**

- Purcell Mountain Lodge family will wear masks inside the lodge. There will be ongoing monitoring of the health and well being of staff pre tour, during the tour and post tour.
- Temperature checks will be performed on a regular basis.
- We have one of the best backcountry kitchens ever! We are fortunate to have a functional kitchen space for our family to be able to stay safe and physically distance.
- Staff members have their own private rooms and shared washroom.

## Support Safe Travel in the Backcountry

The Avalanche Canada Calgary fundraiser was cancelled in March 2020 due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19. Avalanche Canada Foundation's Whistler fundraiser will be November 27, 2020. In 2019, Art for Avalanche Canada raised close to \$50,000. Funds raised go towards promoting public avalanche safety in Canada. Please lend your support to our friends at Avalanche Canada. Most non-profit organizations have been faced with cancelling live events and transitioning to online auctions. Without the live events, this fundraiser and auction donations are more important than ever. Consider donating items like artwork, gear or outdoor experiences. Every bit helps! **Please contact Michele Dauphinee at: [acf@avalanche.ca](mailto:acf@avalanche.ca) to donate**



### Protect the Ones You Love

Purcell Mountain Lodge is proud to support Avalanche Canada and safety in the backcountry. We have offered a three night summer and winter stay package for two guests for the upcoming fundraiser. We look forward to welcoming the winners to our home in the mountains

## Yamnuska Mountain Adventures



### **\*\*NEW\*\* Beginner Backcountry at Purcell Lodge**

January 15-18, 2021

### **Recreational Avalanche Safety Training 2 (AST 2)**

January 11-15, 2021

We are looking forward to hosting Yamnuska Mountain Adventure guests at Purcell Mountain Lodge in January. Please go to [www.yamnuska.com](http://www.yamnuska.com) to check out the two courses offered!

## **#Explore BC... this Winter - Hassle Free Refund Policy**

We are offering Canadian travellers a safe place to play, relax and retreat. Our visitors will find comfort in knowing strict COVID-19 safety measures are in place to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission. We welcome guests to view our detailed COVID-19 Safety Plan on the website. Please get in touch with any questions. For new winter bookings, a hassle refund will be issued if a guest has COVID-19 symptoms prior to the tour. A \$75 administration fee will be charged as well as 3.7% for the credit card refund processing charge. There are no refunds or credit for poor weather. Plan ahead with your own travel insurance.



### **One Way or Round Trip Shuttle Services Calgary to Golden to Calgary**



Reliable and safe shuttle services  
Calgary, AB to Golden, B.C..  
Leave the driving to us and sit back and  
relax. Drivers have extensive experience  
and will help make your journey through  
the Rockies an unforgettable experience.

**Four guests \$362.50 per person round trip  
(\$181.25 one way) Cohort Group in a Mini Van**

**Five guests \$320.00 per person round trip  
(\$160 one way) Cohort Group in a SUV**

**Six guests \$308.33 per person round trip  
(\$154 one way) Mixed group in a 12 Passenger Shuttle**

**Eight guests \$231.25 per person round trip  
(\$115 one way) Mixed Group in a 14 Passenger Shuttle**



When heading into the mountains this winter, take time to plan your trip. The Online Avalanche Tutorial is a helpful resource for snowmobilers, skiers, snowboarders, mountaineers and snowshoers. The course is not to replace for face to face or hands on avalanche safety training. This is a reminder to be snow smart this winter.



**GOODBYE  
AUTUMN  
HELLO  
WINTER**





Winter  
essentials:  
hot cocoa  
and fuzzy  
socks.

