

Snow Trails



SKI TOURING & SNOWSHOEING

Truckee

CABIN CREEK TRAIL

LEVEL: Easy to moderate

A marked route of 3 to 6 miles follows old logging roads and Cabin Creek Road. This is a nice area for downhill practice while cross-country skiing. The terrain has gentle, rolling slopes. From Interstate 80, take Highway 89 south 3 miles, then turn right on Cabin Creek Road. The unmarked trailhead is 1 mile from the highway. Limited parking is available in a road cut, when plowed. There is moderate snowmobile use in the area.

DONNER MEMORIAL STATE PARK

LEVEL: Easy I (530) 582-7892

The park is mostly flat and open year-round. Skiers can enjoy the forests and boulder fields, glide down to the lake and meander through the park. There is an unmarked 9.6-km skier-packed trail starting near the Emigrant Trail Museum. For the more adventuresome, glide over the hills into Coldstream Canyon. **\$8 parking, \$7 62+.**

PETER GRUBB HUT/CASTLE PEAK

LEVEL: Moderate to strenuous

A marked Nordic ski trail begins at the Castle Peak/Boreal interchange on Donner Summit off Interstate 80, west of Truckee. Take the Castle Peak exit and follow it for one-quarter mile to the intersection for the trailhead to the north that goes up Castle Valley and over Castle Pass. Follow unmarked trail to Peter Grubb Hut. For overnight stays at Peter Grubb Hut, call (530) 426-3632 for reservations.

POLE CREEK TRAIL SYSTEM

LEVEL: Easy to strenuous

Unmarked trails follow roads along Pole Creek and Silver Creek Drainages. Trailhead 6 miles south of Truckee on Highway 89. Some parking on west side of highway. Trails follow U.S. Forest Service roads. Several loops.

SAGEHEN SUMMIT

LEVEL: Easy to moderate

An unmarked route follows the road up to the creek bottom. Lateral roads offer many side trips. Trailhead at Sagehen Summit on the west side of Highway 89, 8 miles north of Truckee. Limited parking.

North Shore

BROCKWAY SUMMIT

LEVEL: Easy to strenuous

Brockway Summit off Highway 267 offers an abundance of areas to ski. Between Northstar and Kings Beach, there are turnouts on both sides of the highway where Nordic skiers and snowshoers can follow logging and utility roads.

PAGE MEADOWS

LEVEL: Easy to moderate

Ski or snowshoe along an old road that meanders through a forest and into a cluster of meadows. Take Highway 89 south from Tahoe City, then turn right on Pine Avenue and right on Tahoe Park Heights Road. At the crest of the hill, take the middle fork, which becomes Big Pine Road, then take a left on Silver Tip. The parking area is at the top of the road.

TAHOE MEADOWS

LEVEL: Easy to strenuous

On Mount Rose high above Lake Tahoe, Tahoe Meadows offers an expansive area where skiers can stretch their legs. Head up Highway 431 from Incline Village until you reach the meadows before the summit. This is a busy area on the weekends for skiers, snowshoers and snowmobilers, so try skiing during the week.

West Shore

BLACKWOOD CANYON

LEVEL: Moderate to strenuous

The meadows in Blackwood Canyon offer a great place to get into the wilderness off Highway 89 on the West Shore. Follow Highway 89 south from Tahoe City and park at the Kaspian Recreation Area. Skiers can glide along the road (not plowed in winter) or through the meadows. For a longer outing, head up the mountain to Barker Pass. This area also is open to snowmobilers. Sno-Park permit required.*

MEEKS MEADOWS

LEVEL: Easy

Farther down the West Shore, Meeks Meadows, also off Highway 89, offers a vast area to ski. The trailhead is across from the Meeks Bay Fire Station; look for the log cabin with red trim. Follow the U.S. Forest Service road or meander through the meadow and down to Meeks Creek.

SUGAR PINE POINT STATE PARK

LEVEL: Easy to moderate I (530) 525-7982

The Ed Z'berg/Sugar Pine Point State Park is a spectacular spot to cross-country ski or snowshoe among the dense forests of the West Shore or along Lake Tahoe's shores. The park offers more than 18 km of marked ski trails. Two trails begin at the campground, nine miles south of Tahoe City, with the other two trails on the lake side of the park, accessed from the Day Use entrance. Trails are not groomed. No dogs allowed, and no winter camping. The park also offers a number of guided tours throughout the season including full moon snowshoe tours, ski tours of the 1960 Olympic cross country trails, historic snowshoe tours and the family Junior Ranger program. Call for dates. **Parking \$8.**

South Lake Tahoe

TAYLOR CREEK

LEVEL: Easy I (530) 573-2600

Developed for the beginner, this well-marked series of trails allows skiers to explore the area. Terrain is mostly flat and is good for the entire family. Take Highway 89 south around Emerald Bay to the Fallen Leaf Lake Area. Turn on Cathedral Road and park in the Sno-Park. Marked trails start at the parking lot with three trails near Fallen Leaf Lake. On the Lake side of Highway 89, follow the road to the Visitor Center to access the Tallac Historic Trail. Sno-Park Permit required.*

SKI RESORTS

RESORTS OFFERING SNOWSHOEING

Clair Tappaan Lodge, Granlibakken, Mt. Rose, Northstar, Resort at Squaw Creek, Royal Gorge, Spooner Lake Cross Country, Tahoe Cross Country and Tahoe Donner Cross Country.

Trails open as conditions permit.

*Sno-Park permit info (916) 324-1222 or purchase at <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks>.