



# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF MOUNTAINEERING

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## COURSE

Advanced Mountaineering Skills Course

## MEETING TIME

7:00 am on the first day of the course

## MEETING PLACE

ASM Jindabyne Base Camp (look for ASM banner and expedition tents) at the entry to Jindabyne Holiday Park directly opposite Nuggets Crossing in Jindabyne

## EQUIPMENT

See Equipment and Clothing List. You are also entitled to a 15% discount on any equipment purchases leading up to your course, from our partner business Paddy Pallin Katoomba.

## PRIVATE TRANSPORT

If you intend travelling to Jindabyne by car please ensure that anti-freeze is used in the radiator. Chains are generally not required for travel to Jindabyne. Cars can be parked at the Jindabyne holiday park for a fee.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Coaches run from Melbourne and Sydney to Jindabyne via Canberra. Contact Murrays or Greyhound coaches. Travel by air is also possible contact your travel agent for further information.

## ACCOMODATION

Should accommodation be required prior to or after the course, tent sites at the Jindabyne Holiday Park (Phone 02 6456 2249) are available. This is a much favoured option as the Holiday Park is a one minute walk from the course starting point and a night "under canvas" will help acclimatise you to the four day stay at our expedition base camp above the snowline!

## PHYSICAL PREPARATION

Some pre-course training such as jogging, cycling, bushwalking or skiing will go a long way in ensuring that your course will be an enjoyable and rewarding one. You don't need to be superman but a good level of fitness is recommended.

## GETTING TO OUR SNOW BASE CAMP

After preparing all food and technical equipment on Monday morning, the group will then be transported by minibus, over-snow vehicle and then finally by snowshoes to our basecamp

Group gear will be transported in participants' packs as well as on snow sleds. It is beneficial for you to have some excess bag space for group equipment.

## **BOOKING PAYMENTS**

For all winter snow courses the following booking payments are required:

\$200 Deposit paid upon booking.

Full payment required 30 days prior to trip commencement.

## **CANCELLATION POLICY**

Thank you for considering a booking with Australian School of Mountaineering (ASM). We look forward to sharing the mountain experience.

Please read the following carefully, so as to better your understanding of our payments, cancellations and weather policies.

It is important to understand that we run only a limited number of winter snow courses and climbing expeditions each year, with a limited number of places – we often have to turn people away as courses book out quickly, and filling a cancelled place at short notice is not always possible.

### **Cancellations:**

- 30 days or more notice prior to the starting date of your course, we will refund your payment less a \$50 handling fee, or transfer your booking at no charge.
- 30 – 14 days notice, course fees can be refunded less \$200 deposit.
- 14 days or less you forfeit your full payment.

### **Severe weather policy:**

- Should severe weather affect your trip, a credit may be offered for a future trip, at ASM's discretion. No refund will be made.

### **Modification of program:**

- ASM reserves the right to alter or modify itineraries due to considerations out of our control.

We strongly advise that participants obtain insurance to cover any costs that may be incurred due to unforeseen cancellations. [www.covermore.com.au](http://www.covermore.com.au) offer competitively priced cancellation insurance.

In the unlikely event that ASM must cancel your course due to insufficient numbers, every effort will be made to offer you alternative dates for this course. If alternative dates are not suitable, a full refund of your course fee can be given.

## **EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING**

The climbing school is well equipped with a stock of functional equipment so outfitting course participants with the right gear is rarely a problem. Our specialist mountaineering equipment has been carefully selected to suit Australian alpine conditions and is expertly maintained by our own staff. Tents are also provided which we will be setting up at our snow camp.

The fee for all Winter Alpine Courses includes all the specialist equipment necessary for safe enjoyable winter mountaineering (except sleeping bags). To ensure we can provide you with the equipment you need for this course, please complete the form at the end of these notes and return it to us ASAP.

When preparing and packing equipment and clothing for your course, make every effort to keep the weight and bulk as low as possible. Remember you are the one that must carry it, along with the technical equipment and food we will be providing you with for the duration of the course. Please ensure that you pack your spare clothing and sleeping bag in either plastic bags or waterproof stuff sacks.

## EQUIPMENT LIST

- Snowshoes & Ski Poles
- Climbing Boots (rigid or semi rigid plastic mountaineering boots)
- Climbing Helmet
- Climbing Harness
- Screwgate Carabiner and ATC Belay Device (lightweight alloy)
- Prussik Loops (1 x 2m & 1 x 3m lengths of 6mm climbing cord)
- Ice Axe (60 to 70cm length)
- Waterfall Ice Climbing Hammer (50 to 55 cm length, with reverse curved pick)
- Crampons (twelve point steel crampons)
- Sleeping Mat (closed cell foam or Thermarest type, full length & giving 20mm of ground insulation)

**(ASM expects to supply the above items at no charge unless participants wish to use their own.)**

- Pack (large internal frame model 75 to 90 litres capacity)  
This can be supplied by ASM at no charge (depending on climber size and availability) however participants are encouraged to bring their own.
- Sleeping Bag (down or synthetic - minimum -10°C capability, with hood)  
*(Available for hire at a cost of \$80.)*

## CLOTHING LIST

Please ensure no cotton is used. Cotton will make you dangerously cold if you become wet

- Long sleeve Thermal Top x 2  
(Polypropylene or Merino wool)
- Fleece or soft shell Jacket (mid weight, long sleeved)
- Warm insulative Jacket (synthetic 100g/sqm or down 200 g/sqm insulation)
- Shell Jacket- Waterproof/Breathable. Must be fully waterproof (minimum 10,000mm rating) and seam taped with hood
- Thermal Pants x 2  
(Polypropylene or Merino wool))
- Fleece or Soft Shell Long Pants  
(lightweight, mid layer)
- Overpants - Waterproof/Breathable. Must be fully waterproof (minimum 10,000mm rating) and seam taped
- Wool Socks (3 pairs)
- Gaiters- calf length, Goretex or Nylon. Must be sized large to fit Mountain Double boots
- Thermal Inner Gloves x 2 (Polypropylene or thin fleece)
- Waterproof insulated outer gloves x 2 (fleece or synthetic fill insulation)
- Beanie (Polarfleece or Wool)
- Fleece neck muff or balaclava
- Sun Hat
- Sunglasses and Ski Goggles (must have both)

## PERSONAL ITEMS

- Sunscreen (Lots of Factor 30)
- Plastic Garbage Bags
- Plastic Waterbottle (2x 1 litre capacity minimum)  
Nalgene brand bottles work well
- Headtorch (with spare batteries, lightweight)
- Pain Relief Tablets (Disprin, Panadol, Ibuprofen)
- Whistle (Plastic Emergency type)
- Lip Guard (sunblock type)
- Knife, Fork, Spoon
- Plastic Mug and Bowl
- Band-aids and sports tape
- Any Personal Medication (enough to last the trip duration plus spares)

# ADVANCED MOUNTAINEERING COURSE – SYLLABUS

We aim to teach in accordance with the latest international standards set by IFMGA.

While we will endeavour to teach all of the below, extended periods of adverse weather can affect what we are able to teach.

## **General Rope Skills**

Knots & Rope management  
Ice Axe & Crampon Sharpening  
Detailed Equipment Selection

## **Snow Anchors/Protection**

Snow-stake anchor usage  
T-slot anchors  
Top/Mid clip anchors  
Snow Bollards

## **Ice Anchors/Protection**

Ice screw placement  
Equalising Ice screws  
Abalakov thread anchor

## **Crampon Technique**

Flat foot (French)  
Front point (German)  
3 O'clock position  
Rest position  
Balling-up

## **Climbing Ice and snow**

Climbing leader techniques  
Climbing gear racking systems  
Leashed vs leashless climbing  
High angle ice climbing techniques

## **Snowshoe Usage**

Correct Fitting  
Walking  
Climbing  
Descending

## **Mountaineering Approaches**

Snowshoe usage  
Sled usage

## **Avalanche Awareness**

Hazard Evaluation  
Safe Route Finding  
Searching Procedures

## **Glacial Travel**

Groupings  
Roping Up  
Movement  
Arresting a fall

## **Crevasse Rescue**

Prusiking  
Assisted Hoist  
Z-pulley system

## **Ice Axe / Hammer Use**

Support position  
Brace position  
Anchor position  
Low dagger position  
High Dagger Position  
Self Arrest

## **Snow Shelters**

Tents  
Snow caves  
Site selection  
Snow Mound

## **Snow Camping**

Keeping dry/warm  
Cooking  
Water  
Health/hygiene

## **Navigation**

Map and compass use  
Grid references  
triangulation  
Whiteout navigation

## FOOD AND NUTRITION

Australian School of Mountaineering will provide breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and drinks for the duration of the course. The menu has been chosen for the course as it meets the following criteria: Low GI, wholesome, easy to cater for in a group setting, can be cooked easily on multi fuel stoves in an alpine base camp, and is simple to modify for those with dietary requirements

## DIETARY REQUIRMENTS?

If you have any dietary requirements, we'd be happy to have a chat to work together to meet your dietary needs. Please call us on (02) 47822014 to discuss. All meals can be prepared vegetarian by leaving the meat out of the dish during preparation.

## SAMPLE MENU:

Breakfast- All Days:	Instant porridge sachets or cereal with powdered milk
Drinks:	A range of teas, hot chocolate, and coffee
Snacks:	Scroggin (mixed bag of nuts, chocolate and sweets), muesli bars
Lunch:	Wraps with the following ingredients to choose from: (Salami, Tuna, cheese, lettuce, carrot, tomato, capsicum, hummus, mayonnaise)
Dinner 1:	Spaghetti Bolognaise (mince, tomato based pasta sauce, zucchini, carrot, parmesan cheese, spices)
Dinner 2:	Moroccan chicken cous cous (cous cous sachets, smoked chicken breast, zucchini, carrot, spices)
Dinner 3:	Pesto Pasta (pasta, basil pesto, zucchini, carrot, parmesan cheese)
Dinner 4:	Freeze Dried Backcountry meal