



## W5 Ottawa 2024 XC/Snowshoe

### X-country Skiing and Snowshoeing Trip

Here is your opportunity to X-country ski and snowshoe again in the beautiful Gatineau Park, plus enjoy the Winterlude Festival activities in Ottawa.

This trip is suitable for all levels of XC skiing and snowshoeing. [Gatineau Park](#) is a conservation area that features over 200km of groomed trails for both classic and skate skiing, through stunning forests, valleys and lakes. Snowshoers have 80km of trails that wind throughout the park. Shelters are located along the trails, where we stop for lunch or to explore the beauty of the park. Nordic ski instruction will be provided on Saturday and/or Sunday. Guided snowshoeing also available.

It's [Winterlude](#) in Ottawa! Don't leave without skating on the canal and trying a Beaver Tail! Ottawa also has spectacular museums, such as the Aviation Museum, the Museum of Nature, the Museum of Civilization and the Canadian War Museum, plus the National Gallery. Indulge in shopping at the Sparks Street Mall and the Rideau Centre. The Byward Market is worth a visit for boutiques, galleries and a wide variety of restaurants and bistros.

The 46th edition of the [Gatineau Loppet](#), Canada's largest international cross-country skiing event, will be held from February 16 to 18, 2024. No matter your level and age, you can save your spot on the starting line for one (or several) of the eight different races. There is a substantial discount if one books by early December, a 25% discount for doing two or more events, and a 10% discount for groups of 10 or more.

### Dates

Friday Feb 16, 2024 – Monday Feb 19, 2024

### What does it cost

**\$625.00** – double occupancy.

**\$425.00** – add for a single room, subject to availability.

### What's included

#### Accommodation

The [Holiday Inn Express Downtown Ottawa East](#) is located within minutes of the Byward Market and all the attractions of our capital city. It is a short walk to The Rideau Canal and the Parliament buildings, as well as

### Trip Highlights

- ❄ 3 days of magnificent cross-country skiing or snowshoeing in Gatineau Park
- ❄ X-Country lessons with HPSC's CANSI certified instructors included
- ❄ 3 nights' accommodation in Ottawa, double occupancy, with breakfast included
- ❄ Saturday night welcome reception
- ❄ Round trip transportation to Ottawa via luxury coach
- ❄ Enjoy the Winterlude Festival activities
- ❄ Trail pass fees are not included but will be purchased at group rates





restaurants of all price ranges and cuisines. Opened in 2019, rooms include fridge and microwave. Rates include full buffet breakfasts, Wi-Fi, pool and fitness centre.

## Trail Fees

XC and snowshoe trail fees are NOT included. Trip leader will look into group rates; more information will be available leading up to the trip. The approximate cost is \$16 - \$21 per day for XC and \$8 - \$11 for snowshoeing.

## Meals Included

- ❄ Hot buffet breakfasts each morning.
- ❄ There is limited food available at the park to purchase; it's best to bring your own lunch and water.
- ❄ Dinners are not included, but there are a range of restaurants nearby. There will be a Welcome Reception on Saturday night at the hotel.

## Transportation

To the ski area and return will be by HPSC premium charter coach.

## Departure

On Friday Feb 16, 2024 from Yonge-York Mills, Toronto at 2:00 PM, and 2:30 PM from a Scarborough parking lot.  
On Monday Feb 19, 2024 from Ottawa at 4:00 PM.

## What you should know and fine print

### Rentals

Cross-country ski equipment is available for rent at the [Relais plein air](#) and other local shops. Snowshoes are available for rent at the [Gatineau Park Visitor Centre](#), the [Relais plein air](#) and other local shops.

### Optional Travel Insurance

For overnight bus trips, members are responsible for arranging their own trip cancellation insurance and medical insurance and is **strongly recommended**. Insurance can be purchased from a number of Toronto sources. Some credit cards also provide coverage but check carefully that it will apply to your trip. All insurance claims must be made by the member to their own insurance company.

### Cancellation Policy

See the webpage re Overnight Trip Cancellation.

### Resort & Hotel Website

[Gatineau Park - National Capital Commission](#)  
[Holiday Inn Express Downtown Ottawa East](#)





## Note

All applicable fuel surcharges and taxes in effect as of August have been included in the package price. However in these volatile times HPSC reserves the right to charge for currently unanticipated increases in the cost of fuel and taxes subsequently imposed by the resort.

