

<http://aimm-meeting.org/>

Easy Hike Suggestions can also be found at the following links:

<https://www.aspentrailfinder.com/5-popular-hiking-trails-in-snowmass-village/>

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/>

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/trails/?difficulty=beginner>

I. Easiest Hikes requiring only snow/winter boots.

Snow Shoes can also be worn if you like to wander off the beaten track.

An interactive map is available at:

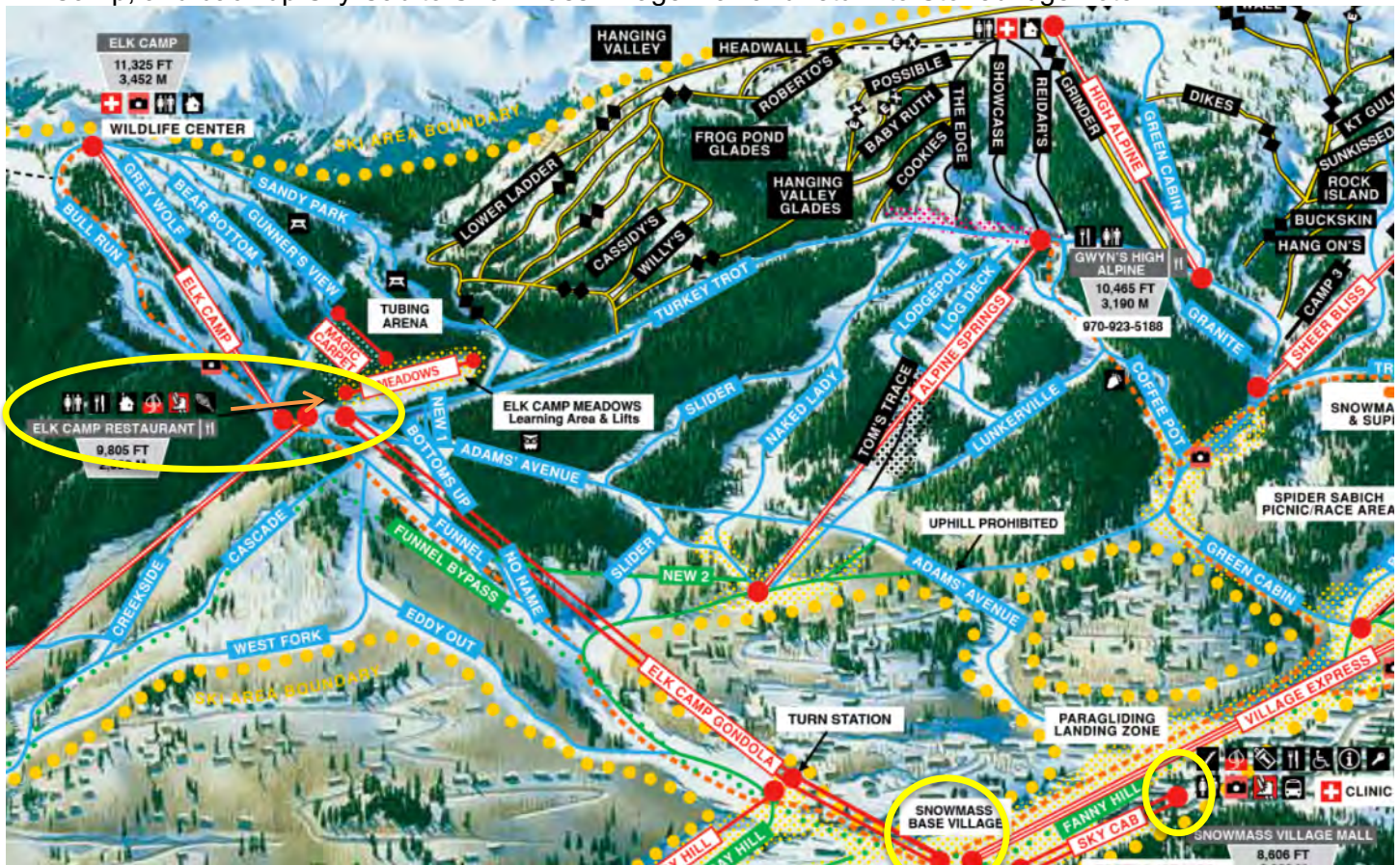


I. a. Easiest of ALL: Gondola riding in Snowmass. Only a camera and a credit card (for ticket and food/drink are) suggested.

Summary: Elk Camp Gondola to Elk Camp Restaurant, and back down to SnowMass Base Camp on the Gondola. All circled in yellow in next map.

Time: 1 hour-ish, including purchasing ticket.

Directions: Walk from Stonebridge hotel to Ski Ticket Office located in Snowmass Village Mall. Purchase an Elk Camp Gondola ticket ride (termed a "Sightseeing pass"; if a senior, ask for the discount). Head down the free Sky Cab to the Base Camp. Catch the Elk Camp Gondola to the Elk Camp Restaurant. Enjoy the scenery at the deck of the restaurant (eat, drink, relax). Then catch the Gondola back down on to the Base Camp, and back up Sky Cab to SnowMass Village Mall and return to Stonebridge hotel.



I. b. Aspen has a similar Gondola ride, also termed a "Sightseeing Pass". Head to Aspen for shopping and then a Gondola ride.

<https://www.aspensnowmass.com/plan-your-stay/tickets-and-passes/advance-purchase>

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I. c. For a short, easy hike near Clark's Market in Snowmass Village, consider the Clark's Cutoff Trail, a dog-friendly dirt path that connects to the Rio Grande Trail and offers easy access to Clark's Market and the post office.

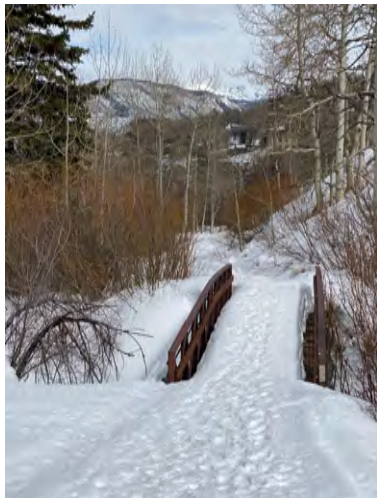
Summary: Dirt trail. Easy. Length: 0.1 miles. Activities: Walking, running, mountain biking, dog-friendly.

- Features: Connects to the Rio Grande Trail, Clark's Market, and the Post Office.
- Parking: Free 2-hour parking available near Clark's Market.

Directions: Walk towards Clark's Market in Snowmass Village, down the hill from the Stonebridge Inn. Follow road down the hill from the Stonebridge Inn. Go to **Carriage Way** (see pic below; located **before** one crosses the road to Clark's Market). Turn left onto **Brush Creek Trail** (see pic below). Walk left a short distance and then choose one of two choices (both nice walks). Walk left along path towards Snowmass village. Or, turn right and pass under the bridge and follow the lane.



- Other Trails Nearby: Ditch Trail, Vista Trail, Tom Blake Trail, Rim Trail, Viewline Trail.



I. d. Running and walking trails with typically no snow: Par Course Trail, Mountain View Trail and Rim Trail South.

There is little to no snow in the valleys in April. That means that the Par Course Trail, Mountain View Trail and Rim Trail South, are excellent choices for a great walk, run or hike – no snow gear needed typically. See links on page 1.

- Suggestions include: **Ditch Trail (Easy)**: A relatively flat, scenic trail ideal for families with views of Snowmass Creek Valley

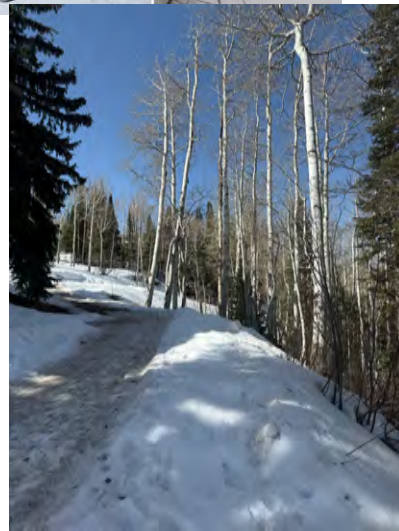
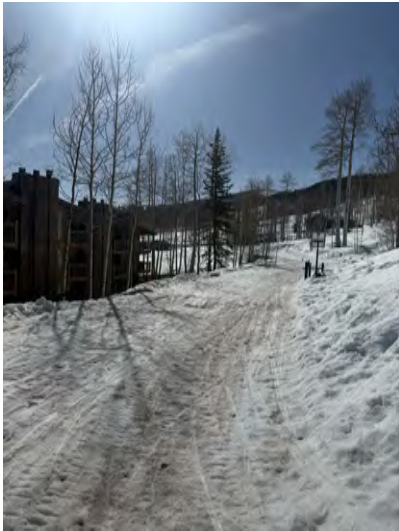
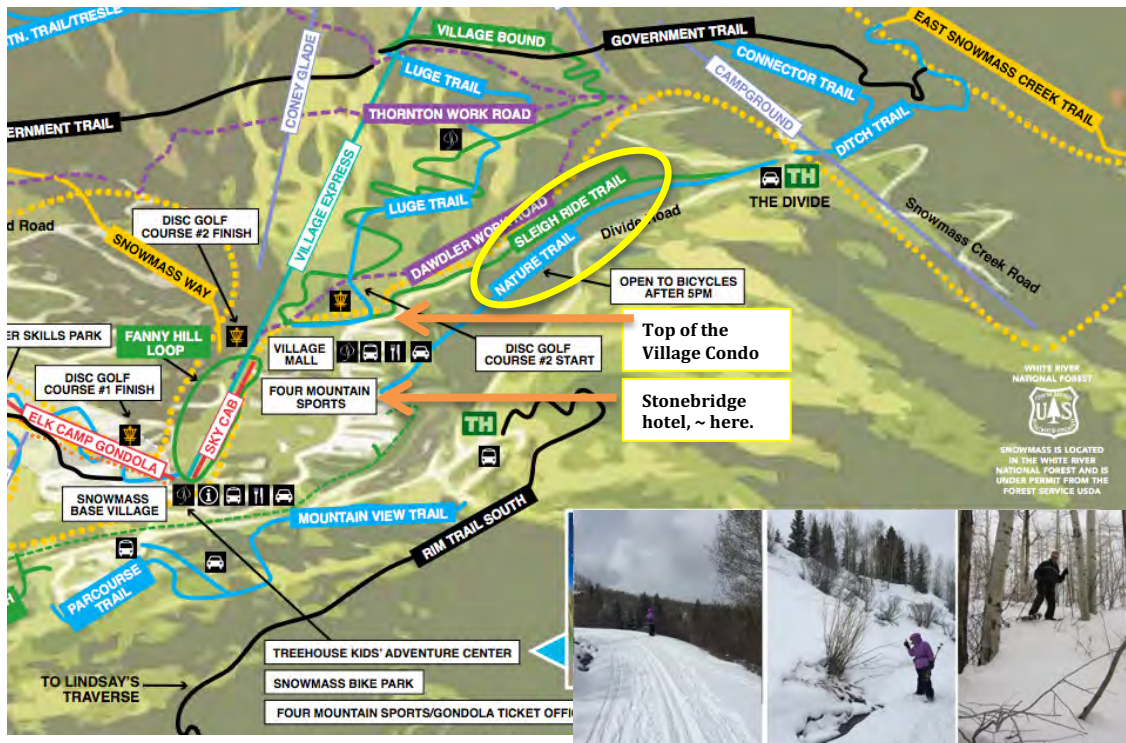
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I. e. Sleigh Ride Trail (green trail on next map, circled in yellow).

Summary: 1 hour-ish, including bus ride. Easy (since flat) UNLESS you walk up the sidewalks from the Stonebridge to the “Top of the Village” condo – this is quite a hike uphill and takes longer. Taking the free bus up to the “Top of the Village” condo makes this an easy and pleasant outing.

Directions: Walk up or take bus to “Top of the Village” condominium.

From “Top of the Village” condominium area, walk 200 feet to the sleigh trail road and turn right (Left leads to the ski slopes). This road is the Sleigh Ride Trail. It is lightly covered with snow, yet is used by dog walkers and runners that live in houses and condos on each side of the trail. One can walk all the way to “The Divide”. One can return on the “Nature Trail” (blue trail), although that is moderate to more difficult if there is a lot of snow (See *Moderate Hiking* page).



II. Moderate Hikes – high snow/winter boots required.

Snow shoes strongly suggested (at least three pairs will be available from borrowing at the conference from other snowshoers in attendance).

Also see links below for moderate hikes

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/>

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/trails/?difficulty=intermediate>

<https://www.aspentrailfinder.com/5-popular-hiking-trails-in-snowmass-village/>



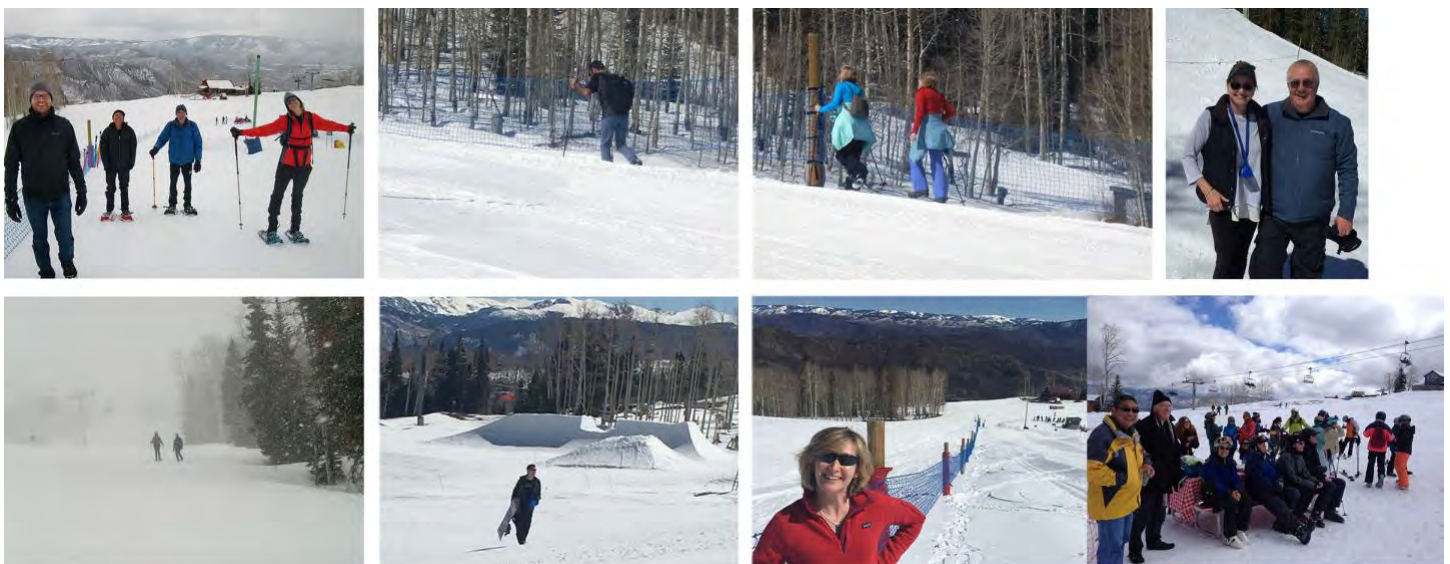
II.a. Most Important – the Ski Race Walk. Moderate.

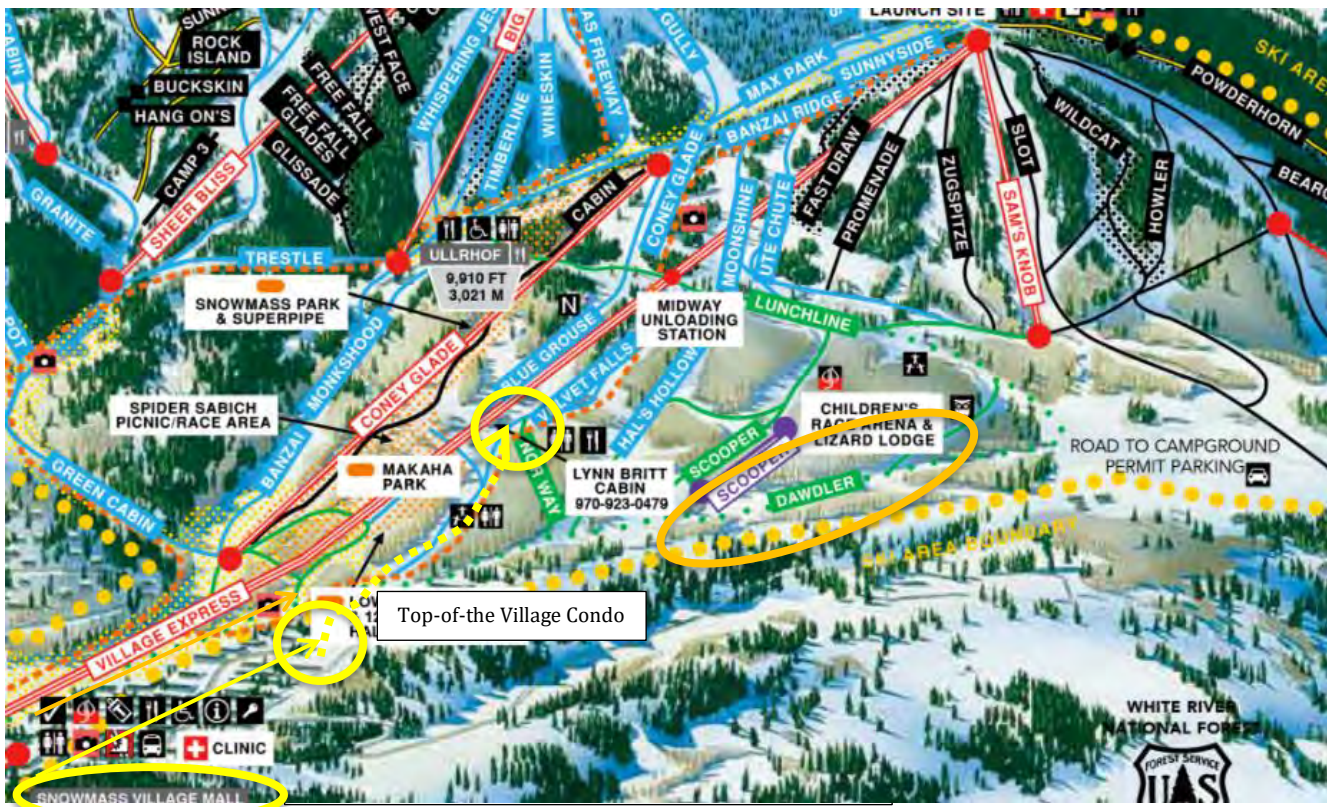
Join your fellow AIMM colleagues to cheer the racers on!

Winter boots required. Crampon, snowshoes and walking sticks help, but are not required. Uphill walking, so vigorous on your heart, but no skills other than walking required. 3+ hours (time to walk up, ski race observation, and then to walk down – you may always of course leave earlier).

See map on top of next page – look for yellow dashed line and circles.

- Head up on free shuttle from hotel or free Snowmass bus to the “Top-of-the-Village” condo.
- Walk a short distance (300 feet?) from the end of the paved road to the snow-covered Sleigh Ride road.
- Turn left and walk to the ski slopes (a short distance).
- Ascend on the ski slopes, following the orange dotted line, to the Lynn Britt Cabin.
- The end of the Ski Race is located here, complete with hot drinks and cookies.
- You may wander up and down along the boundaries of the ski race in order to take GREAT pictures of your friends and family.
- Reverse to return to the Snowmass Village Mall.



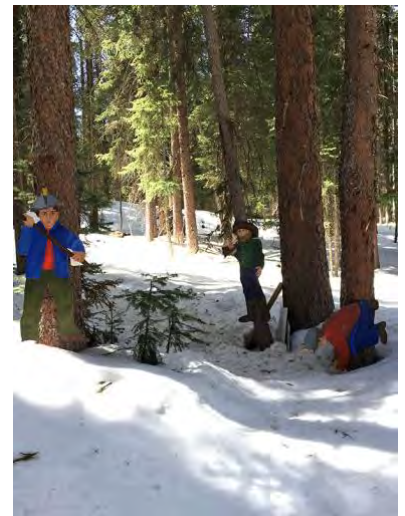


II. b. Dawdler to Children’s Race Arena and Lizard Lodge – Moderate.

See orange circles and lines on map above.

Snowshoes required, as are poles. 2 hours.

- Head up on Snowmass bus to the “Top of the Village” condo.
- Walk a short distance (300 feet?) from the end of the paved road to the snow-covered “Sleigh Ride” road. Turn left and walk to the ski slopes (a short distance).
- Stop and examine the slope map. Ascend to Dawdler (first ski slope to the right). The walk is less steep hereafter.
- Follow until you reach the Children’s Race Arena and Lizard Lodge and walk into the woods here.
- There are cute things to see there for kids (see picture), including for the kid in all of us.



II.c. Elk Camp Gondola to Elk Camp Restaurant, and back down via Funnel Bypass to the SnowMass Bass.

Snow shoes required. If no snow shoes, just walk back down below the Gondola – see easy walks.

Long moderate walk, very scenic at top near the Funnel ByPass.

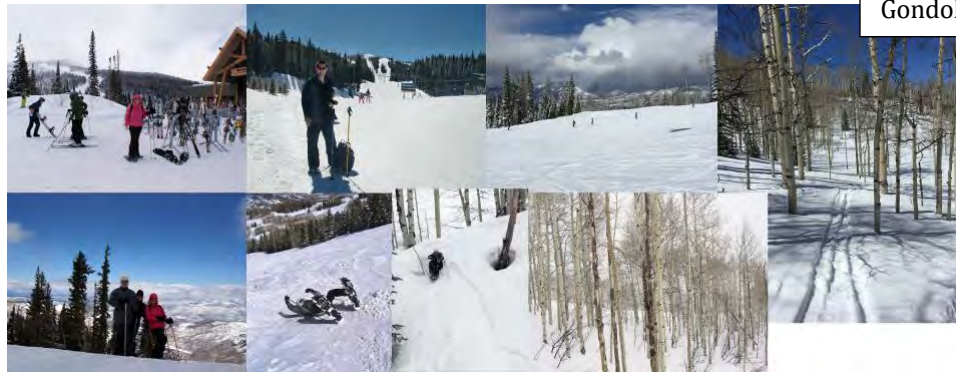
- Purchase an Elk Camp Gondola ride (termed a “Sightseeing pass” at the Ski Ticket Office). Head down the Sky Cab to the Base Camp if at SnowMass Village. Catch the Elk Camp Gondola to the Restaurant. Eat/drink on deck looking at snow - RELAX. Use the rest room here. It’s a long walk to another one.
- Head out across “Adam’s Avenue” to the left from the restaurant (i.e., across the ski slope to the other side. Look up the slope to your right for skiers so that you are not run over).

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- Look then for “Funnel Bypass” and “Eddy Out” signs and follow them (green dotted trail and blue trail, respectively, on map below).
- You can wander on the upper edge of “Cascade”, but do NOT head down too far. It will take you far, far away from Snowmass Village Mall. If you desire following this slope, which is very enticing as it is typically closed this time of year, take money for a taxi ride to get back.
- Follow “Funnel Bypass” around and then to where it meets up with the “No Name” orange dotted line that takes you back to the Snowmass Base Village.
- For Fun, please wander through the aspen trees a bit. They are spectacular!
- Also, please remember that hiking is only one option. Sliding down the hill works too.
- OR, if tired, make it back as far as the Turn Station of the Elk Camp Gondola, get back on gondola, and descend to the Base Camp.
- Then, catch the Sky Cab to Snowmass Village



Catch Elk Camp Gondola here



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II. d. Nature Trail – Moderate to Vigorous depending on entrance site and amount of snow.

Snowshoes required, as are poles. 2+ hours.

- Begins at far end of Parking Lot 7 according to the sign (see pic on next page), although it is easier to access from parking lots 8 or 9. This is because the entrance is often blocked by snow and ice pushed off of the parking lots. The entrance can be TREACHEROUS at times from these parking lots.
- An easier way (and advised way) is to head to the Sleigh Ride Road (see on map, directions on Easy Hike guide) and then turn right, rather than left. Walk on this flat trail until you are in close proximity to the Nature Trail (see map below). Head down the slopes and you will find it.
- Once on the Nature Trail, it is quite lovely. The trail is initially easy to follow – as far as the little wooden bridge.
- Thereafter, one has to wander around a bit. But don't worry, you can't get lost. The road for cars (Divide Road) is south of you, and the Sleigh Ride trail is close to the north.
- One can always ascend to the Sleigh Ride trail to exit. Just pick a site to ascend that is less steep and use trees to pull yourself up, if necessary.
- Once on the Sleigh Ride trail, head left back to the "Top-of-the-Village" condo. This is a flat snow covered road used by dog walkers and runners living in the condos and houses nearby.





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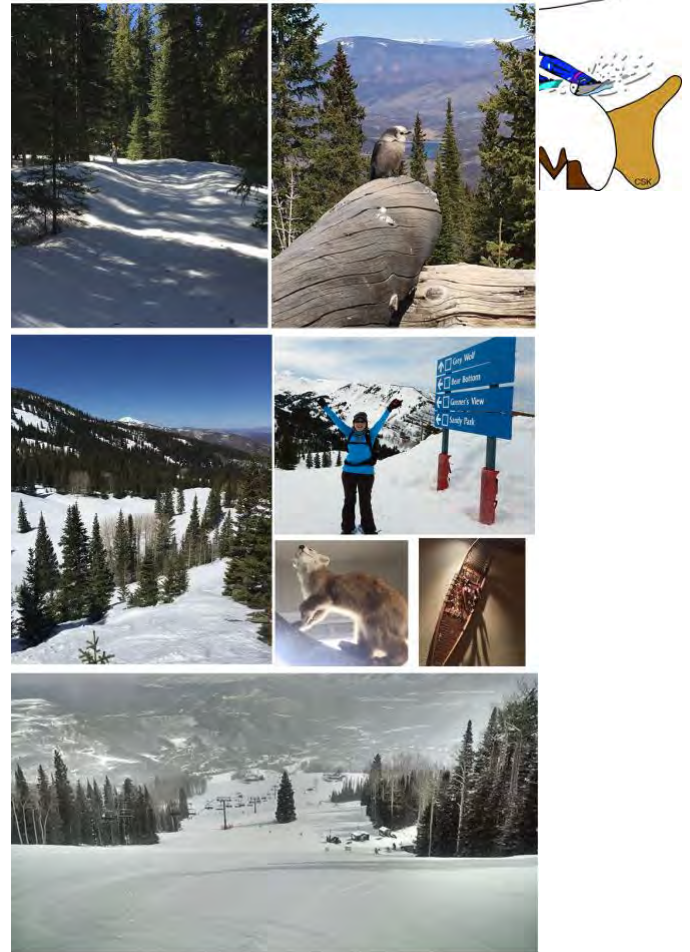
III. Most Vigorous Hikes – high snow/winter boots required.

Snow shoes strongly suggested.

More suggestions and Interactive maps are available at:

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/>

<https://hike.gosnowmass.com/trails/?difficulty=advanced>



III. a. Elk Camp Summit Trail to the Wild Life Center.

Very Vigorous. Bring food and water. Snowshoes, warm clothes, 3-4+ hours, and Wheaties for breakfast required. See map above and map on following page.

- Walk up to, or take Elk Camp Gondola to Elk Camp Restaurant, and continue to ascend to Elk Camp Wild Life Center.
- For Gondola, purchase an Elk Camp Gondola ride (termed a "Sightseeing pass" at the Ski Ticket Office. Head down the Sky Cab to the Base Camp if at Snowmass Village. Catch the Elk Camp Gondola to the Restaurant. Use the loo here – it's a long way up when walking.
- To walk up to the Elk Camp Restaurant, ascend below the Gondola.
- From the Restaurant, head north on one of the yellow trails (Summit, Sierra Club Loop, Rabbit Run). They are NOT marked, so follow instead the side trails on which snow boarders travel.
- Or, one can follow the ski slopes up, e.g. Grey Wolf, Bear Bottom or Bull Run (Bull Run is less steep than the others).
- When finally there, warm up and rest in the Center. Enjoy the displays. There are rest rooms here but no food.
- To descend, reverse path or take a different slope down.



III. b. Elk Camp Restaurant, across Adam's Avenue, to Snowmass Village Mall.

Vigorous. Bring food and water. Snowshoes, warm clothes, and 2-4 hours depending on your walking speed. See map above.

- Walk up to, or take Elk Camp Gondola to Elk Camp Restaurant.
- For Gondola, purchase an Elk Camp Gondola ride (termed a "Sightseeing pass" at the Ski Ticket Office. Head down the Sky Cab to the Base Camp if at SnowMass Village. Catch the Elk Camp Gondola to the Elk Camp Restaurant. Use the restroom (there are no more except *au naturelle* in the wild woods, until finished).
- From the Restaurant, turn left to the ski slope and pass around the Restaurant and Gondola.
- Look for and then follow "Adam's Avenue" back to Snowmass Village Mall. This ski slope will bring you across "Naked Lady" (stop and take a picture with sign and send to loved ones).
- Can also follow "Slider" to "Naked Lady".
- As you arrive at the "Village Express" slope, look up towards the Paragliding Landing zone. Sometimes, there is an eagle's nest up in the trees and baby eagles.
- Walk across this last slope to the Snowmass Village Mall.
- Sit down, take your boots off, and have a beer.

