

BVBackpackers - Participant's Guidelines for Enjoying Trips

These guidelines are provided to ensure the health, safety and enjoyment of all participants.

1. Be aware that you participate at your own risk.
2. All participants are to notify the coordinator in advance of their intention to join the trip. The coordinator reserves the right to cancel the trip if he or she has not heard from anyone in advance.

When contacting the coordinator, new members, guests, and those members not familiar with the trip should discuss the trip requirements (equipment, fitness level, experience). The coordinator will advise the participant of the rigours of the trip and the likely conditions. You can then make an informed decision regarding your ability to participate and enjoy yourself. If you decide you are not prepared for a particular trip you are encouraged to join another, more suitable trip.

Coordinators have the right to refuse any participants deemed not to be adequately prepared for the trip. The health, safety and enjoyment of all participants are paramount.

3. Participants must tell the Co-ordinator in advance (by phone call, email, or at the meeting place) if they plan to return early, i.e. they know, in advance, that they do not plan to complete the outing with the group. A participant who plans to leave the outing early will have to arrange for someone to accompany them on their return; these plans should be in place before the group reaches the trailhead, as it affects all participants and the travel arrangements. The Co-ordinator must be informed of the arrangements. Once the Club leaves the trailhead no one should leave an outing unaccompanied.

4. Dogs are not permitted on trips. (Service dogs are permitted.)
5. Plan to arrive a few minutes early at the meeting place. Be sure to bring adequate footwear/equipment, clothing, lunch, water, sharp wit and cheery disposition.
6. Be prepared to contribute to the travel cost (this is posted on the touring schedule and website).
7. Acknowledge the role of the coordinator and the 'rules' of the trip.
8. If you need to turn back for any reason let the coordinator or sweep know. Someone will accompany you on the return.
9. The coordinator reserves the right to ask participants to withdraw from the trip should they conclude there is a risk to the participant or others. The health, safety and enjoyment of all participants are paramount.
10. When travelling keep the person behind you in sight.
11. Understand you are part of a group. Be a team player!
12. If you have to step away from the trail (for example for a comfort stop) leave your pack on the trail as an indicator and/or let someone know.
13. Leave no trace of your journey (except tracks).

Modified April 26, 2016

(Original was approved January 2013)